

THE COLLAPSE OF NORTH KOREA?

The unfortunate fact is that — as the Failed States Index suggests — the regime in Pyongyang is actually increasing its control.

Groove is Korea's English magazine. Find out what's new, what's news and what there is to do.

GROOVE

KOREA • Issue 82 / August 2013

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MIND VS. MACHINE

Two Korean artists venture to Paris for personal and professional enrichment.

HOUSE UNTRAINED

Facing expectations as a Western woman married to a Korean man

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Exploring all our peninsula's wilds have to offer, from kiteboarding in Gangneung to paragliding in Daejeon.

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(FULL STORY OF THE BEATLES)

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술탄오브더디스코

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UL:OS

WHITE LIES DIRECTOR MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

EDITORIAL

Have something to say?
mattlamers@groovekorea.com

● On June 8, an amateur video emerged on the internet that showed two men verbally and physically assaulting a woman in a bar. Everyone who watched the video was disturbed, rightfully so, and it didn't take long before it went viral.

In the clip, one of the men forcefully grasped the victim's jaw, squeezing it open to expose her teeth, before putting his fingers in her nostrils and then in her mouth. He says, "look at your fuckin' teeth. You got an infection?" The other man asks her: "Why the fuck can't you get plastic surgery like every other little fuckin' Korean bitch." It was 78 seconds of horror.

The video touched a nerve in Korea even before Washington Post blogger Max Fisher made it an international sensation on July 15. It is regretful that Fisher failed to authenticate the video. His follow-up, published two weeks later, wasn't much better. In it, he wrote that the video "seemed to confirm (Koreans') worst fears that young Western men who live in Seoul ... sometimes have a reputation, fairly or unfairly, for hard-partying lifestyles." In fact, the video touched a nerve in Korea not because of any perception that young Western men like to party, the video touched a nerve here because, for some people, it only seemed to confirm the perception that young Western males in Korea are loutish sexual predators who prey on helpless Korean maidens.

The public's reaction to the video was nearly as deplorable as the behavior of the men it purportedly portrayed. It provided a launching pad for sexist and racist vitriol. The woman was not granted any sympathy for being the victim of what appeared to be an assault, instead she was accused of "putting herself in the situation to be assaulted." Typical of the despicable comments that were leveled at her were: "That's not a woman, it's a whore, so this is a non-story" and she's "obsessed with white guys." Instead of a story about two men assaulting a woman, the media gave us stories about white men assaulting a Korean woman in a nightclub.

The race of the men in the video is important to note in this case because it regrettably touched off a wave of racist sentiment, exposing the fact that some people in Korea simply do not like foreign men. Comments like "(The video) says a lot about white Anglo Saxon males and their perception of Asian women," and, "This confirms something about white men for me" are examples of what was to be found online.

Eight days after the video emerged, the story took a twist when Korea Herald journalist John Power reported that he was contacted by two of the

men in the video, who claimed that it was part of a series of short horror films shot in 2011. Indeed, it now turns out that the video is a work of fiction that was intended "to show the horror of how society treats people with physical deformities," the director reluctantly told Power. The Herald reporter has said that the director lied on at least one occasion and was not forthcoming about his role in the making the movie.

If the director's aim was truly to speak out against society's mistreatment of people with deformities, then casting foreign men to verbally and physically assault a Korean woman in a bar was a suspect decision indeed. Surely this director can not be that foolish to think viewers would look past the races of the actors to see this noble message.

It is not known who released the video two years after it was made, or why. Nevertheless, releasing it as a presentation of fact and not fiction raises questions as to the actual motive of its production in the first place, and subsequent release. The director of the video is refusing to come forward to claim responsibility for the film, preferring to withhold alternate takes and speak anonymously to a small number of media outlets.

The damage is done. Anti-Western agents and race-baiting journalists from Korea and Washington to the U.K. are running with the story, and they do not care whether the video was staged or not. Jezebel writer Katie J.M. Baker admitted as much, in her headline no less, which exclaimed "It Doesn't Matter" if the video is a work of fiction. Baker's interchangeable use of fact and fiction in journalism to further her agenda puts Jezebel in league with The Daily Mail, whose own reporting on this incident is even worse than hers.

Regardless of whatever the director hoped to achieve by making the film, the results are in: It has stoked the anti-Western fire and added to the growing pile of work demonizing foreign men in Korea as sexual predators, including those who have settled down here to raise a family. It should go without saying that all foreign men in Korea do not deserve to be stereotyped as a result of the bad behavior of a very small number of people.

The only respectful course of action for the director to take is to step out from the shadows, take responsibility for the video, release the alternate takes and prove once and for all that his film is a work of fiction. Until that happens, the video will continue to make headlines as if it represented a scene that actually took place, and be fodder for those who want to believe that a large number of foreign men in Korea are sexual predators.

GROOVE

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Insight

The Elvis Presley of philosophy

Last June, as "Gangnam Style" began to erupt in the West, Slavoj Žižek and his 12-year-old son walked through the song's namesake district with curiosity. The boy was quickly won over by its futuristic skyscrapers and blinding neon, but the elder Žižek, who is among the world's leading leftist philosophers and very much an outspoken critic of capitalism, was less impressed. He would later joke that it was no coincidence that the YouTube hit by "that idiot Psy" broke 1 billion views on Dec. 21, 2012 — the same day the Mayans predicted the world would end. "Maybe the Mayans were right," he'd tell his friends. "Maybe this is the end of the cultural world, with such bullshit." Groove Korea talked to him about everything from Psy to communism. He'll be in Seoul from Sept. 27 to 29 as part of a conference at Kyung Hee University called "The Idea of Communism," alongside French Marxist philosopher Alain Badiou and Wang Hui, a Chinese professor of literature and history.

Story by Michael Fraiman

Read it online in August or in print in September.

Food & Drink

The best food Dave has had in years

Above Burger B's in Hongdae, and a block from the park where every young person is already half-pissed by dinnertime, is Beale Street, Choi Sukjun's new gastropub and restaurant. Specializing in Memphis dry rub barbecue, it has 10 beers on tap, a beautiful, soft lit atmosphere, and the best — the best — food I have had in years in Seoul.

It's not the place to go if you're vegetarian or if you bloat from salt. But there are no other reasons not to eat here. The beer is good, but the draw is the food. Holy Christ the food. This food is not to be argued with. This food is not for eating; this is food to make love to. This is the kind of food you bring your depressed cousin to when even the most expensive Zurich therapist can't help him. This is the Prozac, the Wellbutrin, and the MDMA of food.

For those who don't dig on swine, chicken boobs are an option: two very moist chicken breasts with a very good marinade we can't decipher.

Story by Dave Hazzan

Read it online in August or in print in September.

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METALLICA

JAPANDROIDS APOLO 18

IGGY AND THE STOOGES

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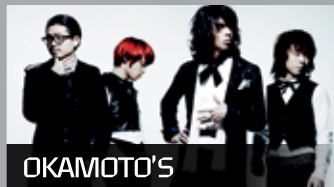
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Chang Kiha & The Faces



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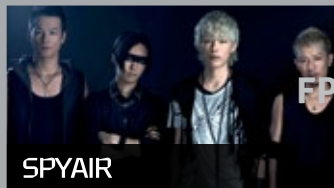
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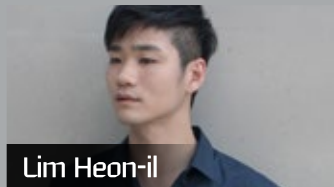
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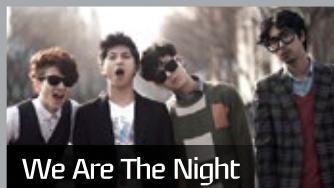
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We Are The Night



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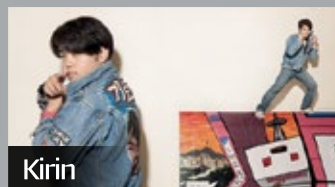
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MUSIC & ARTS



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KOREA'S MINDS AND MACHINES

Gwangju-based artists Kim Pyeong-joon and Woo Young-hee have traveled from Korea to Paris, learning about themselves, their community and their country.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Camping in Korea, white water rafting in Gangwon, sky diving, kiteboarding in Gangneung, paragliding in Daejeon, sailing in Busan, ice climbing, rock climbing, mountain biking, bungee jumping, water sports



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The regime is increasing its control. Defections are down and, despite the third-generation succession of Kim Jong-un, the internal balance of power between the elites and the ruling family is still basically intact.

30 - FEAR OF BECOMING A HOUSEWIFE

An unexpected challenge is faced by an American married to a Korean man.

32 - SECURE ONLINE BANKING

Master your online accounts, and rest easy with your finances in good hands — yours

GK FOOD & DRINK

46 - SEOUL VEGGIE KITCHEN

I wrangled this beauty one summer evening because I had a serious hankerin' for fried bread — no more hard, baked, dry crouton thingies for me.

48 - OODLES OF (COLD) NOODLES

We are officially in the thick of the hot, sticky, moist, unforgiving, godless part of the year. You and some friends are sitting around deliberating about how to beat the heat. Suddenly, you have an epiphany: naengmyeon.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS



40 - BUNGEE JUMPING AND WATER SPORTS

Situated down a winding mountain road and on the quiet Cheongpyeong Lake in eastern Gyeonggi Province, River Land boasts serene views of lush green forest, a clear-water river and uninterrupted blue sky.

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MUSIC & ARTS



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'AVENUE Q' COMES TO SEOUL

The Tony Award winning Broadway musical "Avenue Q" is making its way across the Globe and stopping off in Seoul for a two-month adventure.

FOOD & DRINK

CREAM OF THE CROP

Straight lines and navy blue may not usually capture your attention, but in this case you'll make an exception because directly above a glass facade and a frequently swinging door there is a bold statement, big in size and reputation: Fell + Cole.



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GM MUSIC & ARTS

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Indie punk rockers Cancertron will ignite your curiosity with their deviant lyrics and raw sound; just don't bring your Mom to one of their shows.

62 - 'WEIRD AND WONDERFUL KOREA'

Chris Backe's new travel guide will take you places others won't.

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66 - THE MIGHTIEST TRIVIA NIGHTS IN THE LAND

Wrangle up a team, stock up on useless facts and go lock horns over a pint.

76 - A DAEGU DAYDREAM

Dog days of summer bring out the best in Daegu

GM DESTINATIONS

70 - LOVE SHACKS, BABY!

While love motels serve as a discreet hanky-panky rendezvous for young Korean couples living with parents or older folks having extramarital flings, there's no law against weary travelers using them for a more G-rated night's sleep.

74 - SOKCHO IN A DAY

Nestled along the shores of the East Sea a three-hour drive from Seoul, Sokcho is a popular coastal city in Gangwon Province. Koreans often visit this place to sample its unique cuisine. And in a country where food-themed travel is commonplace, Sokcho seemed like the perfect place for us to try out some local dishes.

GM DISTRCATIONS

80 - GROOVE LISTINGS

Doctors, travel agencies, restaurants, hotels, airlines, nightclubs and more

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Be the first to complete the puzzles, email a photo to mattlamers@groovekorea and win a prize.

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A selection of deals around Korea.

96 - PHOTO CHALLENGE

Submit a photo and win a prize.

MUSIC & ARTS



56 - SMACKSOFT: THE MUSIC OF DISCONTENT

In sitting down with Whang Bo-ryung, the front-woman of SmackSoft, she talks of the scene in Seoul when she returned to her birth nation during the very difficult times of the mid-to-late 90's.

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STYLE: Brown Ale.
COLOUR: Deep copper with garnet flashes.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Three varieties of hops, and a blend of caramel, pale and black malts.
CHARACTER: Fills your mouth with a fusion of toasty malt and sweet caramel up front finishing with a nutty flavour, medium creamy carbonation.



STYLE: Dark Lager.
COLOUR: Amber with white, billowy head.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Blend of pale and caramel malts, as well as honey from Three Hills, and two varieties of hops.
CHARACTER: Sweet and honey/molasses flavour, slightly hopped with fuller mouth feel.



STYLE: India Pale Ale.
COLOUR: Golden amber.
KEY INGREDIENTS: British-style hops known as Fuggles. Seriously.
CHARACTER: A classic ale dry hopped to lend a distinctive character. Spicy warm, earthy.



STYLE: Brown Ale.
COLOUR: Warm reddish light brown.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Blend of pale, caramel and black malts and a blend of three hop varieties.
CHARACTER: Malty with a hint of toffee balanced with very evident hop and followed by a clean finish.



STYLE: Irish Red Ale.
COLOUR: Caramel coloured with a reddish hue.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Blend of pale, caramel and black malts, and three varieties of hops.
CHARACTER: Sweet and hoppy, caramel and dark fruity plum notes.



STYLE: Scottish Style Heavy Ale.
COLOUR: Bronze with toffee tones.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Pale malt, caramel malt, peated malt, munich malt, hops.
CHARACTER: Strong and full bodied with a complex mix of toffee, caramel, vanilla and a hint of peat.



STYLE: Light lime Lager.
COLOUR: Soft gold.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Pure malted barley, hops, water and lime.
CHARACTER: Light body with slight lime aroma and flavour.



STYLE: Dry Cider.
COLOUR: Light yellow (varies by batch).
KEY INGREDIENTS: Okanagan apples, pears.
CHARACTER: Apple with notes of vanilla and cinnamon, mouth feel is crisp and dry.

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Groove Korea Magazine 2013

KEY PEOPLE

Introducing some of the editors, writers and photographers behind August's issue.



Albert Kim
U.S.

Albert studied journalism and French in university and came to Seoul in search of his roots. His passion is studying pansori, and getting his foot in the door of the music industry. He spends time eating, writing, taking pictures and finding the golden ratio of somek. He's worked as a bartender, teacher, editor, journalist and, before Korea, at Louis Vuitton.

Sabrina Hill
Canada

The briefest possible description for this vain, pretentious and overbearing contrarian is "fundamentally flawed and altogether unlikeable." Sabrina is a unit stills photographer for feature and indie films. A native of Toronto, she settled in Korea eight years ago. She occupies her time as a photojournalist for magazines here and abroad and preparing for the eventual zombie apocalypse. Read more of her recent articles at seoulfi.com.



Ian Henderson
U.S.



Hailing from Cape Fear, North Carolina, Ian Henderson is dismayed to still be plagued by humidity. During the course of his eternal search for refrigerated rooms, several of his years have been spent in Asia, sharing a love of linguistics with a wonderful segment of humanity. He can also be found scavenging for bits of the extreme metal underground, craft micro-brews and any place where documentaries are screened.

Jon Linke
Canada

Jon's spent the better part of his adult life blogging and putting his cynical observations in cartoon form. He has bounced around and lived in several continents over the past eight years, taking in a wealth of inspiration. He's an English teacher by choice and channels a lot of his talents into making his students think he's cool. Jon draws the comic "E-2" and has contributed words and illustrations for this month's article on Itaewon trivia nights.



Felix Im
U.S.

Felix was born and raised in Denver, Colorado. After graduating from the University of Colorado with an English degree, he rushed to Seoul to bury himself in Korean newspapers, magazines and books for nearly two years with limited social contact. He likes classical music and café hopping in Seoul. Felix writes stories for Groove's Music & Arts section.

THE INBOX

Groove readers' opinions and feedback.

RE: WHY KOREA MUST EMBRACE MULTICULTURALISM

The main issues with Korea and this boils down to semantics. This woman (Rep. Jasmine Lee) has confused the word multiculturalism with what would best be described as "multicultural households," and an aversion to racial discussions has completely misnomered/not addressed the issue of biracial children in her country, which is the real issue at hand.

She and the rest of the Korean government are sidestepping and avoiding the issue of racial integration while trying to redefine an already well-defined word. Children who are raised in a multicultural home do face problems that need to be addressed, but children with mixed-race parentage also share these issues regardless of their current parental background. They are playing a cup-and-ball game with racism, and I can only hope the children involved are not hurt too greatly in the process.

My own family suffered from biracial integration in a small community so badly that to this day I have lost all cultural ties with no way to connect with anyone. Multiculturalism isn't the problem; Korean pride in the ideal of pure blood is.

— Stetson Smith

RE: WHY KOREA MUST EMBRACE MULTICULTURALISM

Honestly, Korea doesn't have hate crimes like in some other countries. Some people believe there is a problem in Korea in regards to racism, but I disagree.

Majority children taunting minority children happens everywhere, even in the United States and Canada. Just be glad Korea doesn't have groups like the Ku Klux Klan, white pride and gangs selling drugs on street corners. And as far as I'm concerned, some foreign people complain about the smallest things they face in Korea — about taxi drivers and whatnot. And that just pisses me off, considering that Korea provides them with jobs and a safe community

— Anonymous

RE: HOW FOREIGN MEDIA GOT KOREA WRONG

Thanks for that editorial, Groove. Even the New York Times did a hatchet job in their coverage of the Koreans during this so-called "crisis." And let's face it, if the New York Times can't even get it right, then most people in the world aren't going to have a clue as to what's really happening here — not because most people read the NYT, but because they're supposed to be some kind of bastion of journalism. Then you have CNN practically declaring World War III from their holodeck, Fox News foaming at the mouth for another war and the networks ... okay no one watches the networks anymore.

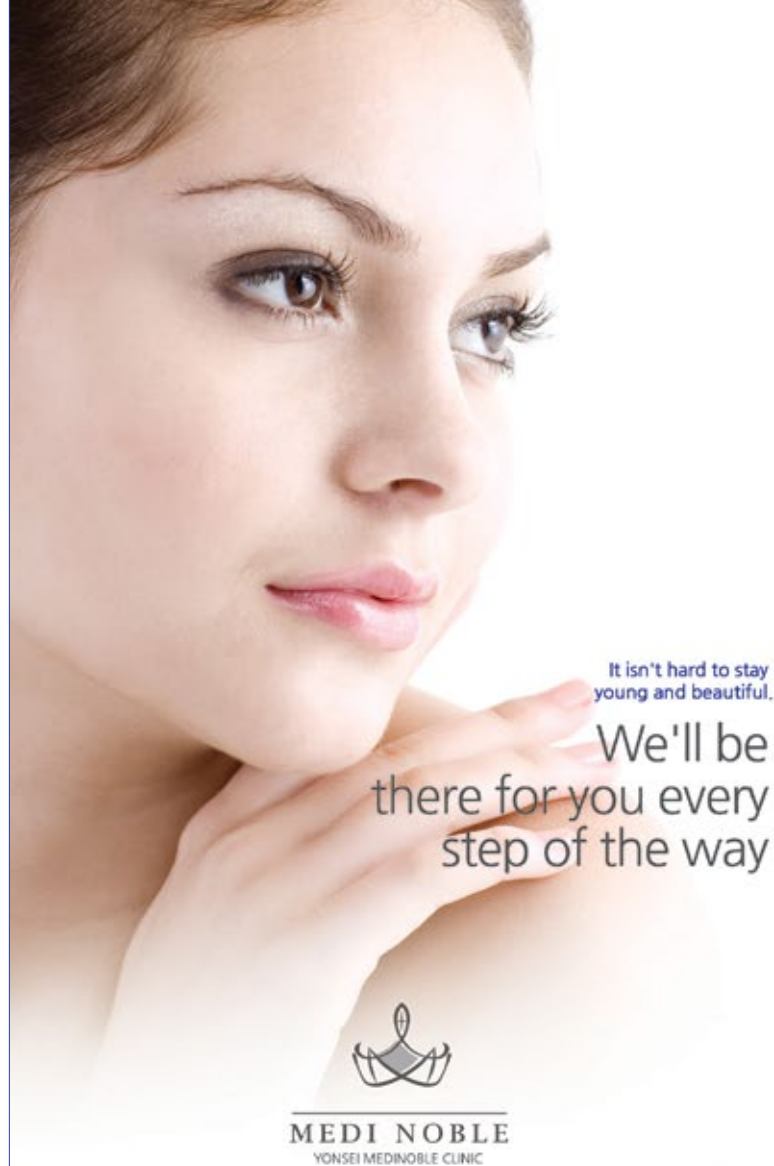
And all of this for what? Like you said, we weren't even close to a real war. It was all hot air. This just boils down to irresponsible editors thinking they have the pulse on what's happening, only they couldn't have been further from reality.

— Andy Wermen

RE: HOW FOREIGN MEDIA GOT KOREA WRONG


I hope it works out for you. I'm English, coming up to 5 years here. That followed 12 in the US, 7 in Germany and before those, 2 years in Holland. When questioned if I will ever return to England, the answer is always "maybe next year," which of course never comes.

— SeoulDave



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MUST READS

Is North Korea's collapse wishful thinking?

Page 28

There are a few famous North Korea-watchers who periodically pop up predicting collapse. They generate headlines because of the journalistically sexy nature of what they say. But the unfortunate fact is that — as the Failed States Index suggests — the regime is actually increasing its control slightly.



The fear of becoming a housewife

Page 30

Making the conscious choice to become a stay-at-home mom or dad is a perfectly respectable decision. However, I fear that for too many women, this decision is not one made from thorough evaluation of all choices, but instead as the result of social expectations.



The music of discontent: SmackSoft

Page 56

With the 1997 "IMF financial crisis" stirring up the fears and discontent of young Koreans, a cultural shift began to take place. A noisy revolution kicked off in the wake of economic and political failings in the '90s, which gave birth to artists like Whang Bo-ryung of SmackSoft, among others.



Korea's minds and machines

Page 50

Groove Korea sat down with Kim Pyeong-joon and Woo Young-hee to talk about their transformative days as artists in Paris, and also of Korea's creative deficit. "It worries me when people look at only the machines and the technology, and not at humanity; nobody looks within themselves," Kim says.



Ice cream junkies should read this

Page 44

For those who are new to our little metropolis, or for those who have been so unlucky as to have never heard, Fell + Cole is where you go to have your ice cream dreams made reality. Magical bowls and cones of whimsical flavors await you in these swank premises.



The mightiest trivia nights in the land

Page 66

Local quiz junkies Ian Henderson and Jon Linke have scoured the Itaewon area looking for the mightiest trivia nights in the land. Hundreds of pints of beer and several blood feuds with rival nerds later, they emerge from the rubble to give you the scoop.



COVER

The great outdoors

Exploring all our peninsula's wilds have to offer, from kiteboarding in Gangneung to paragliding in Daejeon. We also explore camping, white water rafting, skydiving, paragliding, trail running and more.

Read the story on Page 34.



Cover photo by Yoon Eun-sook, Korea Tourism Organization
Design by Park Seong-eun

Our past three issues:



July 2013

Summer sips
The pianist from Pyongyang
Can shamanism survive?



June 2013

5 island escapes
12 flights under \$300
Jeonju in a day



May 2013

Interview: Jasmine Lee
The end of Korea
Get in shape for summer

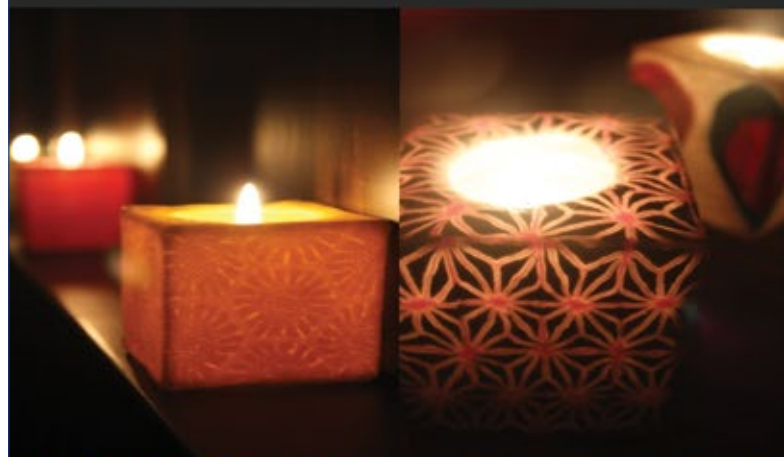


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WHAT'S ON

FESTIVALS

LIVE MUSIC

BARS, FOOD

TOURS, SPORTS

ARTS/NETWORK

BOX OFFICE

1 - Thursday

Festival Busan Sea Festival @ Haeundae Beach, Gwangalli Beach, etc.; Aug. 1-9; www.seafestival.co.kr/ENG/Sea/01.asp

Box office "Stolen" opens in theaters across Korea; cineinkorea.com

Festival Last day of Jangheung Jeongnamjin Water Festival @ Jangheung Tamjingang River; www.jhwater.kr

8 - Thursday

Comedy Stand-up Seoul @ Rocky Mountain Tavern in Itaewon; 9 pm; rockymountain-tavern.com; 1st Thursday of month

Box office "Only God forgives" opens in theaters across Korea; see Page 64 for a preview; cineinkorea.com

2 - Friday

Festival Jisan World Rock Festival @ Jisan Forest Resort; Aug. 2-4; www.jisanworldrockfestival.com

Festival Incheon Pentaport Rock Festival @ Geunrin Park, Sogndo No. 23; Aug. 2-4; pentaportrock.com

Festival Busan International Magic Festival @ Haeundae Beach, Busan Cinema Center; Aug. 2-5; hibimf.org

9 - Friday

Happy Hour 2,000 won off beer/wine @ Craftworks in Noksapyeong; 4-6 pm; craftworkstaphouse.com

Musical Last day of A Poet Making Rice, Scooping Love @ Sejong Center for the Performing Arts; 3 & 7:30 pm; www.sejongpac.or.kr

3 - Saturday

Festival Busan International Rock Festival @ Busan Samnak Riverside Sports Park; Aug. 3-5; www.rockfestival.co.kr

Arts Night Art Market @ Gallery Golmok, 34-9 Ponji, Itaewon-dong; 8 pm; www.gallery-golmok.com

Festival Last day of Sweet Fish Festival @ Bonghwa-eup, Bonghwa-gun; bonghwafestival.com

10 - Saturday

Musical Last day of "A Poet Making Rice, Scooping Love" @ Sejong Center for the Performing Arts; 3 & 7:30 pm; www.sejongpac.or.kr

Festival Korean Choral Music Festival @ Seoul Arts Center; 2 pm; www.sac.or.kr

4 - Sunday

Festival Last day of Pohang International Fireworks Festival @ Duho-dong, 95, Haean-ro, Buk-gu; festival.ipohang.org

Festival Last day of Gangjin Celadon Festival @ Goryeo Celadon Porcelain Kiln area; eng.gangjin-fes.or.kr

Festival Mokpo Maritime Cultural Festival @ Mokpo-si, Jeollanam-do; Aug. 2-6; mokpofestival.com

11 - Sunday

Festival Sacheon International Percussion Festival @ Samcheonpo Bridge Park; Aug. 8-11; www.sccf.or.kr

Festival Chuncheon Puppet Festival @ Chuncheon; Aug. 8-15; festival.cocobau.com

15 - Thursday

Food Wing Night @ Wolfhound in 'Twan; 4,000 won for 10; Thursdays; facebook.com/WolfhoundPub

Happy hour All Big Rock beer only 5,000 won from 10 pm until midnight; Thursdays; www.bigrockbeer.co.kr

5 - Monday

Food Wing night @ Craftworks in Noksapyeong (Mondays); craftworkstaphouse.com

Drinks Mexican night @ Sam Ryan's in Itaewon; samryans.com; Mondays

Drinks Mexican night @ Sam Ryan's in Itaewon; samryans.com; Mondays

12 - Monday

Social Open mic @ Tony's in Itaewon (Mondays); tonysitaewon.com

Food 5,000 won off Wolfhound's burger; facebook.com/WolfhoundPub; Mondays

16 - Friday

Comedy Stand Up Seoul @ Renaissance Hotel; Aug. 16 & 17; 10 pm; standup-seoul@gmail.com

Exhibition Light and Sound Exhibition @ Seoul Arts Center, Hangaram Art Museum; Aug. 8-14; www.sac.or.kr

6 - Tuesday

Festival Last day of The Great Mountains International Music Festival @ Youngpyeong Resort; gmmfs.com

Happy hour All-you-can-drink beer until 7 pm with meal order; 10,000 won @ Big Rock in Gangnam; Monday, Tuesday

Happy hour All-you-can-drink beer until 7 pm with meal order; 10,000 won @ Big Rock in Gangnam; Monday, Tuesday

13 - Tuesday

Tour Dongdaemun Fabric Market Tour with Seoul International Women's Association; 10 am; reserve by Aug. 11; siwapage.com

Happy hour All-you-can-drink beer until 7 pm with meal order; 10,000 won @ Big Rock in Gangnam; Monday, Tuesday

17 - Saturday

Music Seoul Arts Center Saturday Concert @ Seoul Arts Center; 11 am; www.sac.or.kr

Tour Anmyun-do tour with Sue J. Bae; 8:30 am; <http://raskb.com>

7 - Wednesday

Wing night @ Dillinger's in Itaewon; dillingersbar@gmail.com; won wings; Wednesdays

Happy Hour 3,000 won off JD, Finlanda vodka @ DOJO in Itaewon; Wednesdays

Happy hour English teacher's night @ Big Rock in Gangnam; 10% off for teachers; Wednesdays; www.bigrock-beer.co.kr

14 Wednesday

Happy hour English teacher's night @ Big Rock in Gangnam; 10% off for teachers; Wednesdays; www.bigrock-beer.co.kr

Festival Super Sonic @ Olympic Park; Cho Yong-pil, Pet Shop Boys, EARTH WIND & FIRE; Aug. 14-15; ticket.interpark.com/Global

17 - Saturday

Festival CITY-BREAK @ Jamsil Sports Complex; Aug. 17-18; Metallica, Muse; ticket.interpark.com

Happy hour One free Big Rock beer upon order of burger until 7 pm; Saturdays; www.bigrockbeer.co.kr



SmackSoft will perform in August. Read story on Page 56.

Check out one of Seoul's trivia nights. Read story on Page 66.





For suggestions or comments,
email calendar@groovekorea.com

*All the events published in this calendar are subject to unforeseen changes by the promoters. Groove Korea does not take responsibility for any misunderstandings or third party damage.

18 - Sunday

Festival Sunhwa Brass Festival @ Seoul Arts Center; 8 pm; www.sac.or.kr

Concert Park Kyung-hwan, The Solutions, Thor-napple, Peterpan Complex @ Sangsang Madang; 5 pm; sangsangmadang.com

MUSIC TIP Looking for live music in Korea? Check koreagigguide.com

25 - Sunday

Quiz night @ Rocky Mountain Tavern in Itaewon; 6:30 pm; rockymountaintavern.com; Su

FOOD Sunday roast @ Craftworks; craftworkstaphouse.com

Pro baseball Nexen vs. KIA @ Mokdong Stadium; www.mykbo.net

Ticket Tip: Go to ticket.interpark.com/Global to purchase tickets for ongoing musicals

19 - Monday

Drinks Mexican night @ Sam Ryan's in Itaewon; samryans.com; Mondays

Happy hour All-you-can-drink beer until 7 pm with meal order; 10,000 won @ Big Rock in Gangnam; Monday, Tuesday

Network Cultural Connection Group in Meeting with Seoul International Women's Association @ Korea Foundation Center; 10 am

26 - Monday

Food 5,000 won off Wolfhound's burger; facebook.com/WolfhoundPub; Mondays

Food Wing special @ at Yaletown in Sinchon; 10 wings for 4,000 won; facebook.com/yaletownja-son; Mondays

Social Open mic @ Tony's in Itaewon (Mondays); tonysitaewon.com

FREE STUFF: Email the Groove crossword to mattlamers@groovekorea.com and win 25,000 won

20 - Tuesday

Food 1/2 price burgers @ Dillinger's in Itaewon; dillingersbar@gmail.com; Tuesday

Food 2 for 1 fish & chips @ Wolfhound (Tuesdays); wolfhoundpub.com

Food Mini Burger Day @ Yaletown in Sinchon; get extra burg with order; yaletown-seoul.com; Tuesdays

27 - Tuesday

Trivia night @ Shenanigans (formerly Bless U) in Itaewon, exit 1, 9 pm; Tuesdays

Food BBQ night @ Craftworks (Tuesdays); craftworkstaphouse.com

Tour Bangsan Bakers' Alley tour with Seoul International Women's Association; 10:30 am; reserve by Aug. 25; siwapage.com

Trivia night @ Bull N' Barrel in Itaewon, 9 pm; Tuesdays

21 Wednesday

Quiz night @ Craftworks in Noksapyeong (Wednesdays); craftworkstaphouse.com

Network Coffee Morning Meeting with Seoul International Women's Association; 9:30 am @ Conrad Seoul; siwapage.com



Elysium opens in theaters on Aug. 29. See Page 64 for a preview.

28 Wednesday

Trivia night @ Phillies in HBC, 9 pm; Wednesdays

Standup comedy (Wednesdays) @ Tony's in Itaewon; tonysitaewon.com

Concert Secret Garden @ Sejong Center for the Performing Arts; 8 pm; www.sejongpac.or.kr

Happy Hour 3,000 won off JD, Finlanda vodka @ DOJO in Itaewon; Wednesdays

22 - Thursday

Food Rib night @ Reilly's Taphouse in Itaewon (Thursdays)

Quiz night @ Dillinger's in Itaewon; 9 pm; dillingersbar@gmail.com; Thursdays



29 - Thursday

Festival Seoul Fringe Festival in front of Hongik University; Aug. 29-Sept. 14; www.seoulfringefestival.net

Standup comedy (Wednesdays) @ Tony's in Itaewon; tonysitaewon.com

Concert Secret Garden @ Sejong Center for the Performing Arts; 8 pm; www.sejongpac.or.kr

Happy Hour 3,000 won off JD, Finlanda vodka @ DOJO in Itaewon; Wednesdays

23 - Friday

Musical Avenue Q @ Charlotte Theater; Aug. 23-Oct. 6; ticket.interpark.com/Global

Food 2 for 1 fish & chips until 7 pm @ Big Rock in Gangnam; Fridays; www.bigrockbeer.co.kr



30 - Friday

Festival Yeongdong Grape Festival @ Yeongdong-hwanggan-ro, Yeongdong-eup; Aug. 30-Sept. 1; www.ydpodo.co.kr

Standup comedy (Wednesdays) @ Tony's in Itaewon; tonysitaewon.com

Concert Secret Garden @ Sejong Center for the Performing Arts; 8 pm; www.sejongpac.or.kr

Happy Hour 3,000 won off JD, Finlanda vodka @ DOJO in Itaewon; Wednesdays

24 - Saturday

Pro baseball Doo-san vs. Hanwha @ Jamsil Stadium; www.mykbo.net

Tour Dong Gang rafting tour with Sue J. Bae; 8 am; <http://raskb.com>



31 - Saturday

Festival Cheonan International Well-Being Food Expo @ Cheonan Samgeori Park; Aug. 30-Sept. 15; www.cheonanexpo.or.kr

Standup comedy (Wednesdays) @ Tony's in Itaewon; tonysitaewon.com

Concert Secret Garden @ Sejong Center for the Performing Arts; 8 pm; www.sejongpac.or.kr

Happy Hour 3,000 won off JD, Finlanda vodka @ DOJO in Itaewon; Wednesdays



The musical "Avenue Q" brings New York to Seoul. Read story on Page 61.



KOREA JOONGANG DAILY

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August 2013 / www.koreajoongangdaily.com

KILLER TELLS ALL VIA KAKAO

A 19-year-old high school dropout who enjoys gory movies raped and strangled a would-be girlfriend in a motel and then spent 16 hours dismembering her body with a knife.

He sent pictures of the dismembered corpse to a friend via phone and then posted messages on the Kakao Story social networking service before turning himself in to the police.

One message was addressed to his 17-year-old victim. "I thank you for your last look at me," the suspect wrote, "for it was free of any fear."

The Yongin Dongbu Police Precinct yesterday asked prosecutors to seek an arrest warrant for the 19-year-old, who is surnamed Shim, on charges of rape, murder and disposing of a corpse.

According to the police, Shim

PSYCHOPATH DISMEMBERS GIRLFRIEND'S BODY AND POSTS THE PHOTOS ON POPULAR PORTAL

called the 17-year-old victim, whom he had known for about a month, at around 3:30 p.m. on a Monday and asked her to come to a motel he was staying in with a friend, surnamed Choi, in Giheung District in Yongin, Gyeonggi

Choi left the motel around 7 p.m. Shim raped the victim around 9 p.m., police said, and strangled her shortly afterward because he was worried she would call the police.

The suspect allegedly told the police he dismembered the corpse in the motel bathroom so he could

dispose of it, and that it took him 16 hours. Shim allegedly flushed some pieces down the toilet and put others into black plastic bags. At 2 p.m. the following day, the suspect took a cab to his residence and put the bags in an outdoor storage area. They were recovered by the police.

The police say Shim sent 16 text messages with two pictures of the victim's body being dismembered to his friend Choi. Choi told police he thought Shim was joking around and assumed the gory photos were downloaded from the Internet.

Shim turned himself in to police around 12:30 a.m. the Wednesday following, saying he felt guilty about the killing.

But before that, Shim posted three messages on Kakao Story, which would have been seen by his friends on that service.

The first, posted at 3:29 p.m. Tuesday, about an hour after he left the motel, read: "Emotion that can make one feel like a human being has drained out of me. I did not feel any sense of guilt or sadness or anger, but am only having a light smile. I shall sleep tonight in full odor of blood."

Three minutes later, he posted the message addressed to his victim. "I praise your courage to look me square in the eye until the very last moment," he wrote.

RICH AND POWERFUL FIND WAYS TO AVOID SPENDING TIME IN JAIL

After being embarrassed by revelations of a parole given to a wealthy woman convicted of hiring a hit man to kill a young woman, the prosecutor general vowed to improve the release system.

The local media reported that a 68-year-old woman surnamed Yun, who was convicted of hiring a contract killer to murder a university student whom she suspected of having an affair with her son-in-law, swapped her prison cell for a luxurious hospital ward by submitting fake medical reports.

The Supreme Court sentenced Yun to life in 2004, but she spent more than four years outside prison by submitting 12 reports from her doctor saying she suffered

from breast cancer, Parkinson's disease, diabetes and depression. She was released three times on medical parole and the paroles were extended seven times.

Yun is only one in a long list of convicted criminals who managed to stay outside their cells by manipulating Korea's parole system.

According to the Supreme Prosecutors' Office, about 300 convicts on average are released on parole every year.

The prosecution said more than 90 percent of the paroles are for medical reasons.

Prosecutor General Chae Dongwook recently ordered prosecutors to do their best to improve the integrity of the parole system.

WARRANT ISSUED FOR 'SEX PARTY' ORGANIZER

Police issued an arrest warrant for Yoon Jung-cheon, a local builder accused of bribing influential people by throwing sex parties at his luxurious vacation home in Wonju, Gangwon, citing the possibility the suspect destroyed evidence or might flee.

The 51-year-old businessman is accused of drugging women at his vacation home and forcing them to provide sexual entertainment for influential figures. Yoon is also suspected of raping women at his villa.

Kim Hak-eui, former vice justice minister, stepped down from the No. 2 position at the Ministry of Justice just six days

after his appointment in March due to bribery allegations surrounding him.

The disgraced former prosecutor has been investigated by the police for multiple counts of rape at a sex party arranged by Yoon. Kim has been hospitalized for a throat condition and has yet to be formally charged.

Other than Kim, the director of a general hospital and a former executive-level official of the Board of Audit and Inspection are also suspected of taking bribes from Yoon. In return for his favors, Yoon won construction orders and was able to receive bank loans.

STAY COOL, KOREA

It's a hot, hot summer. Temperatures in July were the hottest in 107 years. And in line with the soaring temperatures, water theme parks have opened up their gates.

Last year more than 7 million Koreans visited water parks, while this year, the number is set to exceed 8 million. This is not only because of the hot days ahead but also due to new parks opening up.

Last month, a city-based theme park, One Mount, opened up in Goyang, Gyeonggi Province. Meanwhile on June 14, another park — a first along the southern coast — Ocean Bay opened in Geoje, South Gyeongsang Province. Combined, the parks expect a turnout of some 1.3 million (One Mount: 1 million; Ocean Bay: 300,000) this season.

Statistics from abroad testify that Korea is mad about water parks. According to Themed Entertainment Association, last year Ocean World ranked fourth, Caribbean Bay sixth and Spa Castle 11th on the list of most-visited water parks around the world.

There are 14 water parks in Korea: Caribbean Bay (Yongin, Gyeonggi Province); Ocean World (Hongcheon, Gangwon Province); Blue Canyon (Pyeongchang, Gangwon Province); Woongjin Water City (Bucheon, Gyeonggi Province); Resom Spa Castle (Yesan, South Chungcheong Province); Seorak Waterpia (Sokcho, Gangwon Province); Ocean 700 (Pyeongchang, Gangwon Province); Peak Island (Pyeongchang, Gangwon Province); Tedin Waterpark (Cheonan, South Chungcheong Province); Paradise Spa Dogo (Asan, South Chungcheong Province); Blue One Waterpark (Gyeongju, North Gyeongsang Province); One Mount (Goyang, Gyeonggi Province); Ocean Bay (Geoje, South Gyeongsang Province); and Aqua Fun (Yongin, Gyeonggi Province).

The numbers are set to rise though as next year Lotte World will jump on the bandwagon with a water park in Gimhae, South Gyeongsang Province. The year after, High One Resort in Jeongseon, Gangwon Province, will follow suit. As summer gets in full swing, the JoongAng Ilbo evaluated the best of the best:

Ocean World vs. Caribbean Bay

Upgrades help top dogs stay ahead of the pack

The top dogs of Korea's water parks are Ocean World and Caribbean Bay. In sheer size, history and exceptional amenities, the two parks are the cream of the crop.

From 1996 to 2010, Caribbean Bay dominated as the leader. All that changed in 2011 when Ocean World usurped the top spot with 1.72 million visitors (Caribbean Bay had 1.5 million).

In the past two years, Ocean World was No. 1. And to keep its spot, the park diligently upgraded its facilities this year. After having top stars like Lee Hyo-ri, After School and Son Dam-bi as the faces of the venue, the park recruited the hottest girl group of the moment, Sistar.

New facilities will also up the ante. Super Wide River, a new attraction, opened this month and consists of five floodgates that pour some 190 tons of water onto a 300-meter-long waterway with floating tubes in it. Riders will feel the surge at various intervals, much as if they were rafting.

Meanwhile at Caribbean Bay, it's all about having a good time as for a month in July, the main attraction, Caribbean Bay, will be turned into a party venue.

The park spent a lot of money to evoke a club atmosphere and while at it, they took time to address patrons' complaints.

To combat long waits, which result in grumpy patrons, there is a reservation system for Tower Boomerango and Water Bobsled. There is also a new electronic display installed which will help family and friends locate lost posse members. Some new deck chairs and massagers have also been purchased.

Resom Spa Castle vs. Seorak Waterpia

Hot springs minerals provide healing feeling

It probably doesn't hurt to soak in water with healing properties. So to visit a water park that uses water drawn from hot springs would be a definite plus.

Of the 14 parks, those that use thermal water are Resom Spa Castle, Seorak Waterpia and Paradise Spa Dogo. All three claim to use water with healing properties. This means not only are the pools heated, but there are even minerals in the water you paddle around in.

Resom Spa Castle and Seorak Waterpia also have an added bonus of various rides; sometimes these rides overshadow the quality of the water.

Resom Spa Castle draws the most visitors of the three. Last year, more than 1.15 million people visited. There are various spa facilities both indoors and out. The

Korea is mad about water parks.

Last year Ocean World ranked fourth, Caribbean Bay sixth and Spa Castle 11th on the list of most-visited water parks around the world.

park has received the Korea Industrial Standard mark, vouching for the quality of its water source.

The water is from the Ducksan hot spring, which has been regarded for the past 600 years for containing germanium, which is good for the skin. One star attraction at the park is Adventure Waterpool, in which a waterfall-like feature massages your body.

There are also tea, fruit and other organic-themed pools.

Seorak Waterpia, on the other hand, offers fantastic views of Mount Seorak as you soak and play. There is a hot pool which reaches 50 degrees Celsius and with nitrium, potassium and calcium in the water, your body will thank you. The healing properties of the water are thought to be beneficial to those suffering from arthritis.

This year, the park recruited the help of singer Yoon Min-soo and his son (the two appear on a hit variety show "Dad, Where Are You Going?"). In an industry which places bikini-clad entertainers as the face of their brands, Seorak Waterpia is doing its bit to market itself as a family trip destination.

One Mount vs. Ocean Bay

There's room for all ages

One Mount opened its gates on May 11 in Ilsan, Gyeonggi Province. It's the first water park in a city, doing away with the notion that water parks should exist in remote areas usually reserved for vacations.

The park is right next to a high-rise apartment com-

AIRLINE NEWS

Carriers apply higher fuel

surcharge on international routes

Flying out of the country will cost more, as Korean airlines are raising fuel surcharges for international flights to reflect a rise in oil prices.

According to flag carriers Korean Air Lines and Asiana Airlines, the fuel surcharge for international flights will be raised to level 13 from 14, the first jump in five months. As a result, fuel surcharges of one-way ticket to the United States will be \$144, up \$11.

The fuel surcharge rate structure consists of 33 levels and is based on the trend of the average price of Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS), a measure of fuel oil cost. However, fuel surcharges for domestic flights will remain same at 11,000 won (\$9.80).

Busan-KL flights are

launched by AirAsia X

AirAsia CEO Tony Fernandes loves Busan, the nation's second-largest city famous for its beaches. In fact, the CEO of the region's largest low-cost carrier owns a house in the southern port city. He loves to drink soju, too.

Fernandes, the founder of Tune Group, which owns AirAsia, was at the launch ceremony for AirAsia X's Busan to Kuala Lumpur route at the Paradise Hotel in Busan. AirAsia X, the long haul arm of AirAsia, celebrated its second international route after Seoul to Kuala Lumpur, offering a one-way ticket for just 80,000 won until July 28. It will fly four times a week.

Korean Air begins service

between Busan and Nanjing

Korean Air has launched a regular flight between Busan, the biggest city in southern Korea, and Nanjing in eastern China. The flight will travel between the cities four days a week — Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

The flight leaves Busan's Gimhae International Airport at 10:50 a.m. and arrives at Nanjing at 11:50 local time.

The return flight departs Nanjing at 12:55 p.m. and arrives back at Gimhae at 3:55 p.m.

The route will use a Boeing B737-800 with 128 seats.

plex. Although in the city, size is no issue for One Mount. The surface area of the park is 40,000 square meters (9.88 acres). It is Korea's third-largest water park, coming in after Caribbean Bay and Ocean World. The park's capacity is a whopping 10,000 people.

Despite its size, the park is sectioned off for the different demographics. Facilities for kids are on the fourth and fifth levels, while those attractions popular with adults are concentrated on the seventh. The highlight attraction is no doubt the Sky Boomerango, a tube ride for two about 20 meters high. The ride is also a bumpy one: After a slide, you swerve upward again before falling into the pool.

IS PYONGYANG'S COLLAPSE WISHFUL THINKING?

The regime is increasing its control. Defections are down, and despite the third-generation succession of Kim Jong-un, the internal balance of power between the elites and the ruling family is basically intact

Story by **Daniel Tudor** / Illustration by **Michael Roy**



● Something called the Failed States Index generated headlines recently. According to the maker of the index, the Fund for Peace, North Korea is actually becoming more stable.

Naturally, Somalia tops the list. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (the North's official name) is 23rd, putting it ahead of around a third of the states in Africa, and down from 13th in 2005. I find this interesting because it contradicts what several "experts" like to say about the North — that it is ready to collapse at any moment.

I have long felt that North Korea collapsism (the study of the coming collapse of the government in Pyongyang) is built more around wishful thinking than anything practical. None of us knows what would happen in the event of regime failure, but it is fair to assume that the average North Korean would end up living a better life in the long run if the sun set on the Kim monarchy.

It is also based on a slight misunderstanding, I fear. My view is that, never having had reasonable, non-arbitrary, "for-the-people" rule, ever — from the Joseon Dynasty to Japanese colonialism to the DPRK regime today — and coming from a paternalistic, hierarchical culture, it would take more than can be expected from North Koreans to rise up against authority. The state's use of brutality and its attempts for total control of public life are merely small parts of the formula.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Daniel Tudor, the Economist's Korea correspondent, writes about topics of interest in Korea today. Recently he released his first book, "Korea: The Impossible Country," which has been the subject of articles and reviews in the Financial Times, The Wall Street Journal, Time, and others. His opinions do not necessarily reflect those of Groove Korea. — Ed.

NEVER HAVING HAD REASONABLE, NON-ARBITRARY, "FOR-THE-PEOPLE" RULE, EVER – FROM THE JOSEON DYNASTY TO JAPANESE COLONIALISM TO THE DPRK REGIME TODAY – AND COMING FROM A PATERNALISTIC, HIERARCHICAL CULTURE, IT WOULD TAKE MORE THAN CAN BE EXPECTED FROM NORTH KOREANS TO RISE UP AGAINST AUTHORITY.

After Kim Jong-il died, I had a telephone discussion with one of my bosses in London. He told me that the situation was "fundamentally unstable," and that revolution, mass refugee flight, and so on, could happen at the drop of a hat. I replied that North Korea is a monarchy and much more stable than he could imagine. In his eyes, that made me naive. However naive I might have been, I still wasn't wrong.

There are a few famous North Korea-watchers who periodically pop up predicting collapse. They generate headlines because of the journalistically sexy nature of what they say. And strategically, they're on to a good thing – nobody remembers when they're wrong, but if the DPRK regime ever did fail, they'd be remembered as the guys who called it.

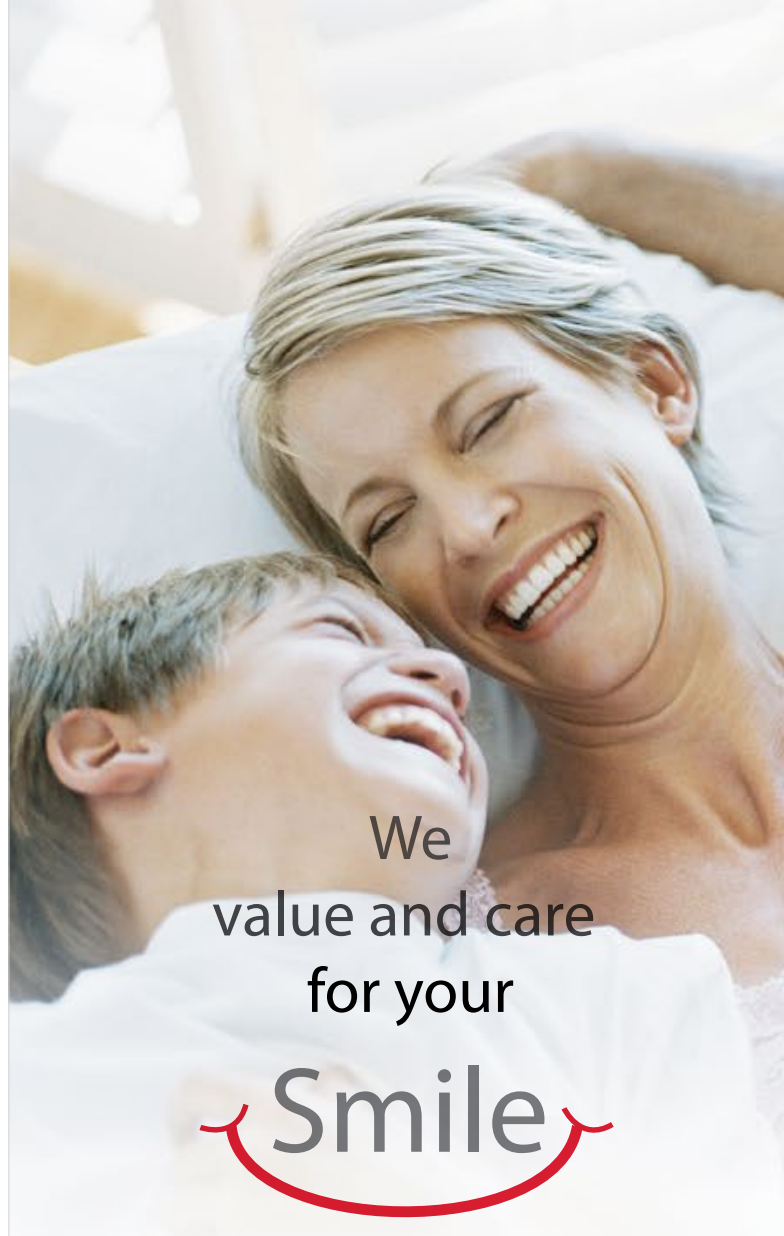
But the unfortunate fact is that, as the Failed States Index suggests, the regime is actually increasing its control slightly. Defections are markedly down because of tightened border security and, despite the third-generation succession of Kim Jong-un, it appears as though the internal balance of power between the various elites and the ruling family is basically intact.

I don't intend this as a call to fatalism. For example it is still wise to try and get as much information about the outside world as possible into the DPRK. When loaded with news, essays and television shows from South Korea, something as innocuous as a USB stick can be considered a particularly effective means of increasing the desire for change. Any pressure for reform from within, however slight, would be welcome. Similarly, emerging capitalism in North Korea may even force the regime to begin a process of China-style change eventually. But barring major external action, outright collapse seems completely fanciful to me.

In the late 16th century, the Joseon state was almost destroyed by Japanese invasion. Following that, the yangban elite lost a great deal of its power, and a new entrepreneurial class rose up. And during the 19th century, huge social upheaval and even mass rebellion occurred. Control shifted between monarchs and elite families like the Andong Kim clan, who further weakened Joseon through their corruption and behind-the-scenes machinations. But despite all this, Joseon was only brought to an end by an outside force, namely the Japanese.

North Korea actually refers to itself as Joseon, and there are many parallels between the two states. I think one of the strongest is the ability to stay afloat, in spite of any amount of misrule.

GROOVE



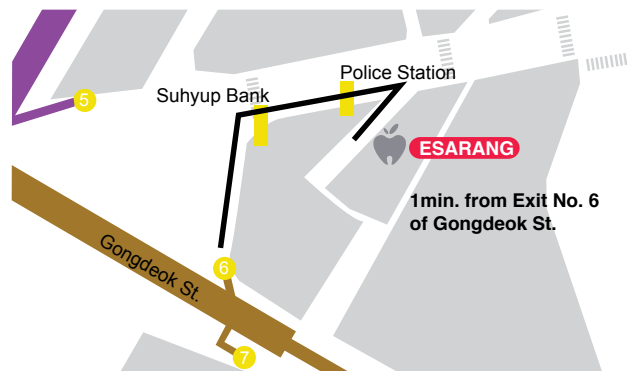
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THE FEAR OF BECOMING A HOUSEWIFE

An unexpected challenge faced by an American woman married to a Korean man

Story by **Megan Harper** / Illustration by **Jungeun Jang**



● This year, I married a Korean man. He isn't "Korean-Korean," which is our code to mean he is comfortable with the ways of life outside of the peninsula. Upon marriage, he did not expect me or my family to provide appliances for the home. (Some of his friends still comply with the traditional practice where the husband's family provides the home and the wife's family provides the appliances.) Nor would he be happy for me to quit my job to care for the children, as the majority of his friends' wives have done. He understands the limits that Confucianism places on women and tries his hardest to understand my expectations of equality. At times, this has proven very difficult for him. (Just as it is for me to fully understand his views on gender roles.)

Here is an example: One of my husband's friends imports personal baby food preparation machines. The friend explained that in his marketing of this product he planned to appeal to the Korean housewife's desire to buy anything that may give her child an advantage over other children.



ABOUT THE COLUMN

The Marriage Column is a space dedicated for people to tell their story on marriage in Korea. There is no agenda. There is no restriction on nationality. To submit your story, email mattlamers@groovekorea.com. The views expressed here are solely those of the author. — Ed.

IN AN ATTEMPT TO UNDERSTAND HIM I HAVE TAKEN A REGRETTABLE COURSE, AND HERE IS WHERE THE UNEXPECTED CHALLENGE COMES IN: I HAVE BEGUN TO ANALYZE HIS MOTHER.

Outraged, I immediately objected to this outdated marketing campaign in which the woman, alone, prepares the family's food. In the abstract, my husband understood my opinion, but just hours later he asked how I would make our child's food. He simply could not imagine a home in which the husband and wife share equal household duties. Humorously, even after I explained my expectation again, he said, "Okay, then you make my food and I will make your food and the food for our kids."

I began trying to understand why it is so difficult for my husband, an intelligent and caring person, to understand that the home is not simply the woman's domain. He agrees with all of my concerns that this outdated mindset creates: absent fathers, financially dependent wives, perpetuation of stereotypes, etc. But the concept of a marriage that shares household duties remains largely beyond his comprehension.

So, in an attempt to understand him, I have taken a regrettable course, and here is where the unexpected challenge comes in: I have begun to analyze his mother.

It is obvious that our parents greatly influence the people we become. I knew that my husband's very traditional Korean childhood would at times conflict with my upbringing by a very independent, divorced mother. What I was not prepared for, though, was the depth of his parents' gender roles, my feelings toward their way of life and the effect these things would have on my ability to relate to his parents. It is hard to hide my discomfort when I see my mother-in-law prepare a beautiful dinner that her husband has half eaten before she even has a chance to sit down. I cannot understand why she tolerates this lack of family assistance. Although I am embarrassed by my own narrow-mindedness, this type of event, and my perception of her, makes it very difficult for me to relate to her; my own refusal to take on the "housewife" role has made it hard for me to embrace this woman.

I know that traditional gender roles continue to exist in my own culture, but they feel much more limiting in Korea. Perhaps it is because, as an outsider, they are easier to see. Or maybe because they often accompany large career sacrifices; I have met many women with advanced degrees in subjects such as Russian literature, Chinese and graphic design who abandon all career goals once they marry. Or maybe it is because many of the young women I work with consider university to be simply a way to meet a wealthy man and become his housewife.

Making the conscious choice to become a stay-at-home mom or dad is a perfectly respectable decision. However, I fear that for too many women, this decision is not one made from thorough evaluation of all choices but instead as the result of social expectations.

I do not intend this to be a social criticism. Rather, I hope to share with others my unexpected limit in understanding that arises from my own gender role expectations. Regardless of my mother-in-law's reasoning, it is futile for me to judge her. I will strive to respect her for the sacrifices she has made while using my own life to demonstrate equalized gender roles. **GROOVE**

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SECURE BANKING FOR INSECURE PEOPLE

Master your online accounts, and rest easy with your finances in
good hands — yours

Story by **Paul Sharkie** / Illustration by **Jungeun Jang**



● If you had a chance to read last month's column, you'd no doubt agree that there is a lot of unnecessary trepidation and skepticism surrounding Korea's online banking system.

Digital certificates, online security code cards and one-time password devices (OTPs) can seem overwhelming for international residents in Korea, but these terms shouldn't raise so many doubts and concerns.

Before condemning online banking as too complicated or too risky, it is important to take the time to learn how to navigate the system. My goal is to help familiarize you with these terms and processes before you embark on your financial journey — hopefully making the process as simple and painless as possible.

In addition to your four-digit PIN and six- to eight-digit transfer password, there are three methods of security you will need to be comfortable with to fully appreciate Korea's online banking system.

Let's break them down.

Digital (security) certificate:

When you first register for internet banking in Korea, you will be required to download and set up a digital certificate (as required by the



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Paul Sharkie is the Foreign Client Relationship Manager for Shinhan Bank's Foreign Customer Department. Please visit Shinhan Expat Banking on Facebook for more information. The banking information provided in this column is based on Shinhan Bank policies and may not be applicable to all banks in Korea. — Ed.

BEFORE CONDEMNING ONLINE BANKING AS TOO COMPLICATED OR TOO RISKY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO TAKE THE TIME TO LEARN HOW TO NAVIGATE THE SYSTEM.

"Electronic Signature Act"). As the Act implies, this is basically an electronic signature. This signature is required by law and will allow you to make secure online banking transactions.

Digital certificates are usually computer specific, so it's advisable that you save the certificate on a USB; doing so will allow you to use your internet banking services on more than one computer or device.

One-Time Password (OTP)

A one-time password device (OTP) creates a password that is available for a short period of time (usually one minute) and valid for only one transaction. Having an OTP means that your password for internet banking will never be the same for an extended period of time — you must use your OTP each time you wish to log in. This is an important feature for individuals who are security conscious and for corporate account users who will use this device when managing their finances online.

Additional Information

- You are only allowed one OTP device per bank. If you have multiple banks you can have one device per bank.
- If you enter your password incorrectly 10 times, you will be required to visit your branch (with your passport and ARC). Incorrect attempts accumulate over time. Try not to have the 10th time occur when you are in need of internet banking but do not have access to a branch.
- OTP prices vary between banks. They are usually around 5,000 won – 25,000 won.

Security Code Card

A Security Code Card is used instead of an OTP device. Each time a user makes a transaction, they will be asked to give selected numbers from their card.

Again, like the OTP, if you accumulate five incorrect attempts your access will be restricted and you will have to visit a branch (with your passport and ARC).

Security Code Card vs. OTP

Both serve similar functions. It should be noted, however, that the OTP device is slightly more secure.

For example, if somebody managed to get a hold of your other internet banking passwords (4 digit PIN / 6-8 digit Transfer Password / digital certificate password) and gained access to your security code card, they may be able to take a picture of the numbers, which would give them continuous access to your accounts without arousing too much suspicion. On the other hand, this is virtually impossible with an OTP device (unless it is actually stolen) because each password is only valid for one minute.

It is crucial that customers understand that someone cannot gain access to their accounts by merely looking at their security code card; the 4 digit PIN, Transfer password and digital certificate password would also have to be known. **GROOVE**



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OUTDOORS



HIT THE TRAIL

● Perhaps the greatest part of trail running is the community that it engenders. There is just something about the shared experience of trail running that connects people in a way that all my years of marathon running never did. Perhaps it is the hours spent in the woods together, offering a nicely juxtaposed sense of solitude and community. Maybe it is the relentless climbing of the trail and the quantity of victories that trail runners share at the top of each summit. Maybe it's the authenticity of the natural environment that lulls trail runners into deeper, meaningful conversations that prompt fast friendships. It could be the ubiquitous post-run meal or makgeolli that strengthens the ties of the community.

I suspect that it is all of these and more that unite the kindred spirits of trail runners.

Maybe you are like me — you love Korea and all of the amenities this wonderful country provides. But maybe you are also yearning for an escape from the busy streets and the neon haze of the city. Sometimes your gaze shifts above the smatterings of high-rise “appat-ue” to find the mountain horizon beckoning and you feel the restless feet below. Perhaps you want to bypass the crosswalks and moving sidewalks to run over rock, sand, stump, and plush pine forest floor. Maybe you want to tap into a deeper vein of Korea, the ancient mountains that have shaped life here for centuries.

It may just be time to hit the trail — running.

Korea's top 7 trails

Gangchon Challenger Course

Chuncheon, Gangwon Province

Terrain type: Fire roads

Distance: 28 kilometers

This is mostly runnable, with three climbs spread out over the course. It is all on dirt road, and the terrain gets fairly rocky in some sections. There is no drinking water, but there is a creek that you can jump in on those hot summer days. The trail offers beautiful views of the eastern Gyeonggi-Gangwon mountain ranges.

Getting there: Take the Chuncheon-Sangbong line to Gulbong Station. When you exit onto the road, go right. Follow road for one kilometer and take a right at the sign. Follow the MTB course signs all the way to Gangchon Station.

Daeryongsan

Chuncheon, Gangwon Province

Terrain Type: Single-track hiking trail

Distance: 14 kilometers out and back

This is one of my favorite runs, as it starts off with moderate climbing and then follows a long ridge to the 899-meter peak of Daeryongsan, where you can see gorgeous views of Chun-

RUNNING

Korea's top 7 trails

Story by **Justin Barbaree** / Photos by **Leslie Hernandez**





cheon and the surrounding area.

Getting there: Take a taxi from Namchuncheon Station to Myongbong Trail Head (Deung-san-gil).

Follow the trail signs to Daeryongsan.

Namhan-sanseong (mountain fortress)

Seoul

Terrain type: Single-track hiking trail

Distance: 12-kilometer loop

One of the best runs in the Seoul area, Namhan-sanseong offers steep climbing and great ridge running along the reconstructed fortress wall. There are also great views of Seoul from up top.

Getting there: Take line 5 to Geoyeo Station. Go out exit 5 and follow the road.

Gwanaksan

Gwacheon, Gyeonggi Province

Terrain type: Single-track hiking trail

Distance: 10.4 kilometers out and back

This is a pretty steep trail, so get ready for some hiking too. This trail offers beautiful views, great track through old forests, and a beautiful temple (Yeonju-am). There's lots of

traffic on the weekend, so start early or hit it during the week. Yeonjudae is 632 meters.

Getting there: Take line 4 to Gwacheon Station. From exit 2, follow a nice pedestrian road until you see a sign for Gwanaksan. Follow trail signs to Yeonjudae.

Geumjong-sanseong (mountain fortress)

Busan

Terrain: Single-track hiking trail

Distance: 17 kilometers out and back

Another beautiful mountain trail that gets extremely busy. You can see Beomeo Temple, and you can run along restored fortress walls that offer a flashback to the Korea's past, where a few epic battles with the Japanese were staged.

The run also offers some great, sprawling views of Busan.

Getting there: Take Busan line 1 to Beomeosa Station. From exit 5 or 7 you can take a short bus ride or run to the trailhead.

Ulsan-bawi

Seoraksan National Park, Gangwon Province

Terrain: Single-track hiking trail

Distance: 8.3 kilometers out and back

Probably one the most beautiful mountain trails on the peninsula, this trail follows a stream up through Seoraksan Park right to the base of a steep climb up the beautiful sandstone towers of Ulsan-bawi.

Be ready to climb some stairs and hold on tight as the soaring views of Seoraksan sweep over you.

Getting there: From the main entrance of Seorak National Park, follow the signs for Ulsan-bawi.

Gyeongju Namsan

Gyeongju

Terrain: Fire roads and single track

Distance: 10 kilometers out and back

This is a fairly easy run that has a gradual climb up to Gouibong at 495 meters. The best features of this trail are the single tracks that you can follow to see some cultural remains — some Buddhist stone pagodas and carved reliefs dating back to the Silla Dynasty. The mountain was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2000.

Getting there: Take local bus 11 from Gyeongju Bus terminal to Tongiljeon Memorial or bus 500 to Samneung Tombs. **GROOVE**



By **Justin Barbaree**

● Running became an integral part of my life in my early years in Korea. My goal was to complete a marathon. I spent hours and hours every week running near my home on the banks of Jungnang River, venturing down to the Han River for long runs. I loved running, and I completed my second marathon in my third year in Korea.

It wasn't until I took a position in Chuncheon that my love of running and mountains were woven together. I laced up my running shoes and set out for an exploratory run in my new neighborhood. Fate would lead me directly to a local trailhead less than 500 meters from my doorstep. I ventured onto it and was delighted to discover that there was a trail system that stretched 10 kilometers through a forested section of the valley that Chuncheon lies in. It was a very runnable single-track trail, with moderate elevation change. I didn't know it then, but that was the day I became a trail runner. Day after day I would eschew the roads and the bike paths in favor of the forest and its natural gems.

Still, I never ventured far out of the valley. I stuck to the low paths around my house and some of the smaller hills around Chuncheon.

There are giants surrounding Chuncheon on all sides: Daeryeongsan, Gubongsan, Machaksan, Baehuryeong, Samaksan and Geumbyeongsan. I would hike these, but I was convinced that Korea's mountains were too steep and its trails too direct to ever consider running them.

All of that changed when a couple of co-workers and I took advantage of summer vacation and decided to hike the circumference of Chuncheon via its mountain trails. What we soon realized while in the high country was that a lot of the ridgeline that connected the peaks of the trail was very runnable. Soon after, our runs began to creep further and further up and into the mountains.

When mountain running, one of the mental shifts that we have to make is our idea of speed. When we are slogging up the side of a mountain over sections that reach a 30-40 percent grade, often we are just trying to make it up as quickly and efficiently as we can. On a true mountain run, it may take five hours to finish 20 km, which would give the avid roadrunner considerable pause. It can often take four times longer to cover

the same distance as a flat, road run. The rewards, however, are ample and inspirational. Trail running in the high country is like entering into a new world, and covering more space and terrain than a day's hike can provide.

Trail running in the high country is like entering into a new world, and covering more space and terrain than a day's hike can provide.

In the Chuncheon area, a day's run may consist of 30 kilometers of trail that takes us over several different peaks, offering up tremendous views of the city and its surrounding area, and then seeing it all again from a different angle 10 kilometers down the trail. In many places, you can command 360-degree views of the undulating mountain rows of Gangwon Province, offering a snapshot of the extraordinary beauty of mountainous peninsula. In my years of trail running here, I have been blessed to see a whole other part of Korea that I would otherwise have never laid eyes on. **GROOVE**



Photo by **Peter J. Bellis**

LIVING ON

White water rafting

Where: Inje, Gangwon Province
Online: www.paddler.co.kr, among others

● If you're a thrill seeker and into the great outdoors, then don't leave Korea without going rafting in Gangwon Province. Tourists have been heading there for years to check out its ideal rivers. Some of the most popular are Hantan River (15 km long; known here as the Grand Canyon of Korea), Dong River (72 km long) and the Naerin Stream rafting course (70 km long). Prices generally range from 100,000 won for one day to 400,000 won for the weekend. After completing a course, you will be allowed to ride class-II rapids (fast enough to give anyone a thrill). The rafting/kayaking season is from March to October.

Skydiving

Online: www.skydivingschool.co.kr, www.kpa.or.kr
Language: Korean

If you've never been skydiving before, chances are you won't make your first leap in Korea: There are no English-speaking courses or instructors to guide you in the plunge. Plus, skydiving isn't done commercially here — meaning you and a friend can't just show up, take a class and jump out of a plane all on the same day. You can, however, charter a helicopter or join a Korean skydiving club. See the websites above for more information.

Mountain biking

Where: All over the country
Online: <http://iguidekorea.com>, or contact via igk@iguidekorea.com
How much: 98,000 won
Registration: the Monday before the outing

In the hills and forests of Korea there are singletracks that beckon to be ridden upon. Come rip up these trails with I Guide Korea's (IGK's) guides and bikes. The Mountain Biking Club outings take people to different biking areas throughout the country. The schedule can be found on their website.

Kiteboarding

Online: www.starbeachboat.com (Gangneung), www.hiwind.co.kr (Seoul)
Language: Korean



Paragliding in Daejeon

Online: cafe.daum.net/beeikjo
 Language: Korean
 How much: 100,000 won

Located across the river from the KAIST campus in Daejeon, paragliding school Beeik Jo has a 500,000 won course that includes classroom hours, ground training and jumps. Students learn to inflate their parachutes on the ground before starting with low flying in calm wind. The classroom portion of the course is held in Korean. The club jumps on Sundays year-round, weather permitting, with the slowest months being May due to unpredictable winds and July due to the rain. Members drive to designated paragliding launching spots scattered around the peninsula in places like Boryeong and Muju.

Ice climbing, rock climbing

Where: All over the country
 Online: <http://iguidekorea.com>, or contact via igk@iguidekorea.com
 How much: 55,000 won

Korea has beautiful mountains. And in those mountains, there are sporting adventures to be had. I Guide Korea (IGK) has been introducing expats and Koreans to outdoor adventures in Korea for years, with Climbing Club outings that take people to different climbing areas throughout the country. The schedule can be found at <http://iguidekorea.com/igk-cc.html>. Anyone can join, and experience is not necessary. All climbing gear is available through IGK.

Bungee jumping and water sports

Where: Cheongpyeong, Gyeonggi Province
 Online: www.riverland.co.kr
 Language: Korean
 How much: bungee jumping is 40,000 won, water sports start from 20,000 won per person, coupons and frequent promotions are published on their website

Situated down a winding mountain road and on the quiet Cheongpyeong Lake in eastern Gyeonggi Province, River Land boasts serene views of lush green forest, a clear-water river and uninterrupted blue sky. Hosting the tallest bungee jump in Korea, River Land has different bungees for every weight class and gives the option of being strapped in by the waist or, for the headfirst experience, the ankles. The drop is directly over the lake, and sometimes might even dunk you. The resort and water sports center also has jet skis, water skiing, wakeboarding and various water tubes. **GROOVE**

Photo by **Logan Brumm Photography and Design**Story by **Britney Dennison**

● Camping is a popular pastime in Korea. But Korean-style camping leaves a lot to be desired. Instead of solace and seclusion, you're more likely to find noisy neighbors and crowded campsites. So we at Groove created a list of campsites that will give you the peace of mind that you're looking for.

If you're heading out in August, we still suggest avoiding weekends and the first week of the month at all costs.

Saneum Natural Recreation Forest

At the base of Mount Bongmi in Gyeonggi Province is Saneum Natural Recreation Forest — a park ripe with Japanese larch, maple and giant dogwood trees. The

grounds are not too far from Seoul, making it a great location for a short vacation. There are a variety of accommodations — you can rent a forest cabin that houses up to 12 people or stay in a lodge — but if you are looking for a more authentic and budget-friendly experience, a campsite only costs about 4,000 won. Saneum Natural Recreation Forest offers walking trails and popular sites including Yongmunsa Temple. It is a great place to escape the city's overcrowded parks.

Getting there: Take a bus from Dong Seoul Terminal or Sangbong Terminal towards Hongcheon or Inje. Get off at Yongmun or Danwol Bus Terminal and take another

bus headed towards Saneum or Seoksan-ri. Get off at Gobok Village and follow the signs for Saneum Recreational Forest.

This place has the most complicated reservation system on the planet. Reservations for the following month can be made from 9 a.m. on the 3rd of each month.

For more information, visit www.huyang.go.kr or email songgun@korea.kr.

Jungmisan Natural Recreation Forest

Jungmisan is a “natural recreation” forest, meaning the park promotes healthy activities. There are opportunities to learn about

the environment while relaxing, de-stressing and getting in-tune with nature. Jungmisan is located in Gyeonggi Province and is roughly an hour from Seoul. Admission is 1,000 won and a campsite goes for about 2,000 won.

Getting There: Take the Jung-gang train from Seoul Cheongnyangni Station to Yangpyeong. After you reach Yangpyeong take a bus towards Okcheon.

For more information, call (31) 771-7166.

Mt. Jeamsan Natural Forest Recreational Area

Mt Jeamsan is located in South Jeolla Province just east of Jeam-

CAMPING



Photo by **Rolfe Kolbe**

IN KOREA

san Mountain, which lies between Boseong and Jangheung.

This park has a camping area, water park, green tea fields and more. And the park is open all year, so you can get your camping and outdoors fix during the off-season.

Getting there: From Express Bus Terminal take a bus towards Gwangju. Travel time should take around four hours.

For more information, see www.jeamsan.go.kr or call (61) 852-4434.

Jungdo Camping Site

The main area of Jungdo may feel a little cramped. Since it is a

small island, a lot of the Korean camping style remains intact, including close quarters. But if you search carefully, you might be able find a more secluded section at the edges. The island is open year-round but food and drinks are limited, so make sure to pack what you need.

Getting there: Take a bus from Dong Seoul Terminal or Sangbong Bus Terminal. Get off at Chuncheon. Take a taxi to Jungdo Island (around 3,000 won). Take a ferry.

Seogwipo Natural Recreation Forest

This place is located on Jeju Is-

land at the base of Mount Halla. It is famous for its trails and views of the mountain. Seogwipo forest is open year round because of Jeju's mild climate.

Address: Sahn 1-8, Dae-po-dong, Seogwipo-si, Jeju-do.

For more information, go to huyang.seogwipo.go.kr or call (64) 738-4544.

Do-it-yourself camping

If Korea's campsites are still too crowded and just aren't cutting it, then why not make your own campsite? This one is for the risk-takers.

Korea's countryside is beautiful and you can discover rural areas fairly easily by bus and bicycle.

Pack a lightweight tent and any provisions you may need and hit the road. It is important to pack as light as possible because you may have to scour towns and villages before finding the perfect location to pitch your tent.

Riverbanks and beaches are ideal locations to set up camp since they are generally not private property. This may be the best option to get a truly authentic, quiet and solitary experience.

It is an asset if you can speak Korean while in remote towns and villages, but is not absolutely necessary.

And while we cannot guarantee that you will not be asked to leave by locals or authorities, most who've tried their hand at rogue camping have had positive experiences.

Just steer clear of the police.

GROOVE

CREAM OF THE CROP

Fell + Cole blows the minds of the city's ice cream junkies

Story and Photos by **Shelley DeWees**

● Down an unassuming side street, in an unassuming area of Hongdae, there is an unassuming storefront. Straight lines and navy blue may not usually capture your attention, but in this case you'll make an exception because directly above a glass facade and a frequently swinging door there is a bold statement, big in size and reputation: Fell + Cole.

For those who are new to our metropolis, or for those who have been so unlucky as to have never heard, Fell + Cole is where you go to have your ice cream dreams become reality. Magical bowls and cones of whimsical flavors such as Green Tea and Whiskey, Blueberry Cream Cheese, Fresh Basil and a drool-worthy concoction called Cookie Monster await you in these swank premises.

Don't fancy today's flavors? How about tomorrow? An endless variety is parading through their freezers, including old favorites like Gangnam (read: normal) Strawberry and Just Boring Vanilla alongside flavors like Makgeolli, Rum Drunken Raisin and Black Tea.

If these flavors seem like they're shaded with ice cream desperation, you wouldn't be far off. Frustrated by Seoul's lack of ice cream imagination, Tristan Choi felt something had to be done if this city was going to have any sort of frozen dessert culture. So, he began tinkering around in the most humble of circumstances: his own teeny kitchen.

"I was making at least two flavors a day, just for practice," he said, as we lazed in front of the air conditioner one hot afternoon. "I was never a chef, but I wanted to learn how to make ice cream like I had back in San Francisco."

And that's where it all began, at the corner of Fell and Cole streets, where Tristan was living, barely tolerating the tanked American economy. He left his job as a project manager in the economics department at Stanford University, packed up his MBA and flew home to Korea. A few busy months in the kitchen with his ice cream maker inspired a quick realization that, geez, were he to educate himself properly on this whole ice cream thing, he could open a business. Oh man!

Armed with a few basic flavors and more than a few ideas for not-so-basic ones, he opened the first Fell + Cole location in July 2011 to rave reviews. Since then, he's launched another store in Apgujeong, moved into this brand new space on Dongmak-ro and invented more than 170 flavors of ice cream for his adoring fans.

"We aim to work with as many local and organic ingredients as possible," he said, lamenting slightly that life in Korea sometimes disappoints on this front. But what he lacks in organic cream he makes up for in other groceries, snatching as many organic fruits, herbs and nuts as he can find to produce a quality ice cream for those with a discerning palette – or those with the urge to taste a bangin' Mint Chocolate Chip.

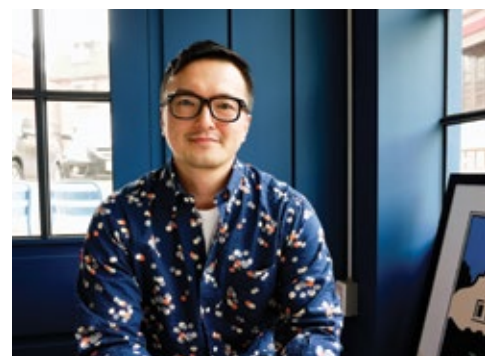
These steamy summer months are the perfect opportunity to come on down for one of Choi's cool treats. He swears by Burned Caramel with Sea Salt for anyone who's feeling a little ho-hum, roundly promotes Hoky Porky (a butterscotch blend spiked with candied bacon) and suggests coyly that you try his coconut chocolate concoction called Coco Bitch. "I don't even like coconut," he said, "but this is one of my favorites."

No matter what, the hip-yet-chill atmosphere will keep you coming back and make you the coolest kid on the block when it comes to restaurant suggestions. Tuck in tight with your cone and coffee, have a laugh and absorb a summer o' love.

GROOVE



FRUSTRATED BY SEOUL'S LACK OF ICE CREAM IMAGINATION, TRISTAN CHOI FELT SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE IF THIS CITY WAS GOING TO HAVE A FROZEN DESSERT CULTURE. SO, HE BEGAN TINKERING AROUND IN THE MOST HUMBLE OF CIRCUMSTANCES: HIS OWN TEENY KITCHEN.



GETTING THERE

Apgujeong Galleria: Apgujeong Station, line 3, exit 2. Head towards the KDB bank and turn right. Walk straight for 250 meters until you reach the bus stop. Get on the 4318. Get off at Apgujeong Hanyang apt. The Galleria is across the street.

Hongdae: Sangsu Station, line 6, exit 1. Come out the exit stairs and turn around. Turn left at the first side street. Walk for about three minutes. Fell + Cole will be on your left.

MORE INFO

Telephone: 070-4411-1434

Email: fellncole@gmail.com



Column and Photos by **Shelley DeWees**

Find this and other recipes at www.groovekorea.com

Seoul Veggie Kitchen Appetizer ascendant

● Does anyone really make appetizers at home? Aren't home appetizers defined as "stuff you absently shove in your cheeks as you sip a beer over the cutting board?" Real life here, guys. Appetizers are saltine crackers and peanut butter. There are no real appetizers in my house.

But! So many tasty things fall into the appetizer category that it's completely unfair not to give them their just attention: chips and dips, skewers, minis, bites, bits and nachos. Let's not ever forget nachos. What's a beer-sipping, real-life chef to do? Make big appetizers and eat them for dinner. Done and done.

I wrangled this beauty one summer evening because I had a serious hanker' for fried bread — no more hard, baked, dry crouton thingies for me. I wanted crispy-on-the-outside, chewy-on-the-inside, golden-fried, salty slices, made even more fabulous with the addition of hearty mushrooms and white wine. Tremendous fried bread bruschetta was born, and another appetizer bit the dust. It's the main event now, baby!

You beginners should know that cooking with mushrooms turns your kitchen into a playhouse (a seriously good-smelling one). They're easy to get right once you know the drill, super cheap and versatile beyond measure, perfect for your next pasta party or night in with Harry Potter. G'ahead. Try 'em out. This recipe can be made with any kind of fresh mushrooms, whichever kind

looks inspiring and costs the least on the particular day you find yourself at the store. Grab whatever and go for it!

Mushroom bruschetta

For the fried toasts

- 1 baguette, cut diagonally into 1-inch-thick slices
- Olive oil, for frying
- Salt

For the mushroom topping

- 1-2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, finely diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced

- 5 cups assorted mushrooms, coarsely chopped and/or thinly sliced
- 1 tbsp dried thyme
- 1 cup white wine, water, or vegetable broth
- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- Salt
- Pepper
- Handful of chives or garlic stems, finely minced

About the author: Shelley DeWees worked as a vegan chef for a Buddhist monastery before moving to Seoul. She is a columnist for Groove Korea. Her opinions do not necessarily reflect those the magazine. — Ed.



I WANTED CRISPY-ON-THE-OUTSIDE, CHEWY-ON-THE-INSIDE, GOLD-EN-FRIED, SALTY SLICES, MADE EVEN MORE FABULOUS WITH THE ADDITION OF HEARTY MUSHROOMS AND WHITE WINE.

Directions

First, make the topping. Heat the olive oil in a skillet over medium-high heat for two minutes so it gets nice and hot, but not smoking. Add the onions and sauté for five or six minutes until they sweat out their moisture and start turning brown. Stir in the garlic and mushrooms along with a liberal dash of salt, and cook for 15 minutes. The mushrooms will sear, release their water, and reabsorb it again during this process, so try not to stir too much while they're progressing. Mushrooms need to be left alone for a while to brood and plot their way to delicious bliss; otherwise they'll turn into rubbery blobs of shroomy sorrow.

When most of the liquid is gone, stir in the thyme, then add the water or wine and bring to a boil, uncovered. Lower the heat and simmer until the wine is completely absorbed, three to five minutes. Finally, dump the mushroom mixture into a bowl and stir in the lemon juice and most of the chives, reserving a little for garnish. Taste for salt then set aside while you prepare the bread.

Wipe out the skillet with a paper towel, removing any bits that might look unsightly attached to the bottom of your toast, then return the skillet to the stove. Heat a dash of olive oil over medium-high heat for two minutes. Working in batches, fry the bread slices for two minutes then flip and cook the other side for an additional minute until browned and crispy. Lightly sprinkle with salt and pepper. Remove the fried bread slices from the pan and place them on a plate to cool. Fry the rest of the bread using the same method, adding an extra splash of olive oil to the pan between batches if needed.

To assemble your fabulous bruschetta, heap a generous portion of mushrooms on each slice of fried bread. Garnish with the reserved chives and a pinch of thyme. **GROOVE**






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Only one food can truly be called Seoul's summer staple

Ooodles of (cold) noodles

Story by **Ian McClellan** / Photo courtesy KOREA.NET

● It's summer in Seoul. We are officially in the thick of the hot, sticky, moist, unforgiving, godless part of the year. You and some friends are sitting around deliberating about how to beat the heat. Suddenly, you have an epiphany: naengmyeon.

You could have suggested the beach, some cold brews, the family-friendly Hamilton pool or a bevy of other common options to survive the sultriness. But no; you, champion-of-the-sweater, have come up with a brighter, bolder solution. They may not carry you on their shoulders for it, they may even give you a strange look for suggesting wet, cold noodles, but one stop at one of Seoul's finest naengmyeon joints and they'll all be thanking you. Not to also mention feeling a heck of a lot cooler.

For those not in the know, a quick naengmyeon lesson: Originating in North Korea, naengmyeon was originally a delicacy served chiefly in Pyongyang and Hamhung. It is documented to have been around since the Joseon dynasty, though the dish only became extremely popular after the Korean War.

The two common varieties of naengmyeon are mul (water) naengmyeon and bibim (mixed) naengmyeon. Mul naengmyeon consists of the thin, North Korean-style noodles dunked in ice and broth, com-

plimented by a boiled egg or slice of boiled beef (sometimes both), julienne cucumbers, Korean pear and often white kimchi. Alternatively, bibim naengmyeon does away with the broth and ice for a slab of red pepper sauce. Pyongyang-style noodles are made from buckwheat, while Hamhung consists of potato or sweet potato starch. Restaurants generally specialize in one of the two noodle kinds. Now that you're a full-fledged naengmyeon connoisseur, here are some spots to check out.

The authentic feel

Eulmildae (Yeoksam Station, 10,000 won)

Eulmildae first gained its reputation in Mapo. The original restaurant in that location has become the standard for others to be judged against on the west side of Seoul. This success led to a second branch in Yeoksam, the one at which I dined. It's a little tricky to find, but wholly worth it.

Eulmildae is nested deep within a dingy building that could be dubbed a food mall. There is a vast array of restaurants on the basement floor — some alluring, others not, but all near-dives. Walking through the building reminded me of early '90s Hong Kong flicks, with their stuffy



edifices and tacky colors. Perhaps the walk glorified my particular experience, but it definitely put me in the mood for something utterly Asian.

Inside it was all business: plain decor, simple silverware and tightly permed, jet-black hair sported by the majority of the staff. As expected, the food did not disappoint. A friend and I tried both the mul and bibim naengmyeon, and it's safe to say that the texture of the noodles shines at Eulmildae.

One often associates naengmyeon with chewing and slurping for extended periods, with noodles stupidly slapping your chin. While scissors are a usual must with naengmyeon, here it is not so. The Korean pear placed atop the arrangement was perfectly sweet and crunchy, contrasting the taste of the broth. In fact, the broth may be the weakest point for Eulmildae, but it enables creativity in what to add, such as the spicy mustard sauce and vinegar offered at the table (though I've seen sugar and more used).

The bibim naengmyeon was tasty and not too spicy, but we agreed the real winner here was the mul naengmyeon. It's also worth noting that Eulmildae is slightly cheaper than other spots.

The place to appease all

Bongpiyang (Gangnam Station, 12,000 won)

If you find yourself in a group setting and would like to whet your palate with some wet noodles, but others have objections, Bongpiyang is an ideal compromise. It is a chain, but one respected by bloggers and foodies alike.

The decor within is slightly more upscale than the rest, though that's compared to the very casual naengmyeon standard. They offer quality galbi for the more carnivorous, or less adventurous, of your companions.

Where Eulmildae offers superb noodles, the broth at Bongpiyang is piquant. It has a full, bold flavor, as opposed to the blander, less stimulating soup of its competitors. Here, too, the mul naengmyeon takes the cake. Their prices are slightly higher, so come with a thicker wallet, especially if you are planning on having some galbi, too.

The most impressive

Hamhung Naengmyeon (Yeondeungpo Station, prices mixed)

I generally steer towards the Pyongyang-style naengmyeon, but Hamhung Naengmyeon threatens that preference with each visit. Not only are the noodles different here, their particular specialty is "hoe" naengmyeon: potato starch noodles served with a spicy-sweet red pepper sauce and raw fish, typically stingray. The combination of the chewy noodles and fresh fish creates a taste at complete odds with other kinds of cold noodles.

Kimchi mandu (dumplings) of admirable heft further entice many potential customers. This is a place where you can expect traditional touches, lots of floor seating and hustle-bustle at peak hours (and possibly a wait, but it moves quickly). **GROOVE**



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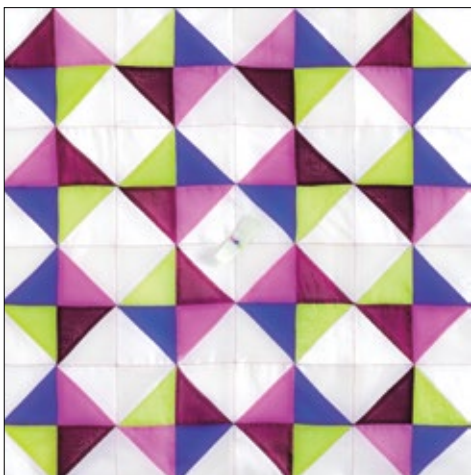
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KOREA'S MINDS AND MACHINES

Gwangju-based artists have traveled from Korea to Paris, and back to create art, and they're not done yet

Story by **Felix Im** / Artwork by **Kim Pyeong-joon** and **Woo Young-hee**



'Before you inspire anyone else, the first person you need to inspire is yourself.'

— Kim Pyeong-joon

● Painter and drawer Kim Pyeong-joon is in his 60s, but his bright, glowing eyes and soft, smooth complexion belie his age. When he speaks, his voice strikes the air with the clarity of crisp piano notes. Born and raised in Gwangju, his speech carries the region's charmingly rustic accent.

Sitting in a workshop of traditional Korean handicrafts that belong to his wife, Woo Young-hee, also a venerable and respected artist, he recalls his transformative days as an artist in Paris, where he moved in 1988 when he was already 40 years old. Beethoven plays in the background from a radio on the other side of the room, a piano rendition of the ninth symphony.

Groove Korea sat down with the two artists in their Gwangju workshop to talk about their careers and the hubris of the Korean art community.

Groove Korea: What was your approach to art before your Parisian days?

Kim Pyeong-joon: Back then, I only knew what I'd learned in college, mostly — a very traditional and closed view of what art should be. In those days, education had a very Japanese approach: strict and conservative. There wasn't any drive to push students to discover new approaches; there was one way to do something, and that was it, no questions about it.

Suddenly, one day I asked myself, "Why is Korea staying so closed and stagnant? Why don't we experiment with new things like people in the West?" I knew that somewhere — elsewhere — people were doing new and great things with art, and I wanted to see some of that. So I packed up and left.

Of all the places you could have gone, why did you choose Paris?

When I was young, we all had this vision of Paris as being the center of the art world, the frontline of creativity and experimentation. Little did I know, by the time I arrived, most of that artistic fervor had moved on to places like America and Germany. Amer-

ican art was the leader of much of the creative movement in those days, much of which I wasn't really ready to accept at that time — stuff like pictures of toilets set in awkward positions and such.

Germany was interesting because they had an exciting art scene that was run almost entirely by the Jewish community that seemed to want to exclude mainstream Germany from their creations. They were doing things with expressionism that no one else had seen.

'You can't really make money sticking with true tradition. You need to be able to make a product out of it. Capitalization.' — Woo Young-hee

So in 1988, by the time I got to Paris, the scene had already settled down and gotten calm; they were no longer looking for new things.

So why did you stay?

Well, it was a nice hub (from which) to visit places like Germany and Italy. Also, Paris offered many chances for artists to show their work. They were always holding exhibitions for different types of art from places like America, Germany and Africa. So it was great to have the opportunity to see that kind of stuff. If you wanted to see that kind of stuff in Korea, you'd have an extremely difficult time. Even a lot of art that wasn't really well known still provided great sources of inspiration.

Is it a true that an artist can't be kicked out of his/her home?

(Laughs) Yeah! There was a group of artists that moved into this flat in a very trendy district, but they couldn't afford the place after a while. The owner was going nuts because he had to deal with a houseful of artists who couldn't pay to live there. In the end, the city ended up buying the property so that the artists could stay and continue their work. That's the kind of support that

the French give their artists.

But still, these days, it's gotten a lot harder. It's getting increasingly difficult for artists to acquire studios with inflation and the dampening economy. But still, at least the French try! Here in Korea, they don't even lift a finger for you!

There isn't even any attempt?

Not at all. There simply isn't enough interest from the community, from the public. How many artists do you think can make a living in Korea? A theater actor, filmmaker — whatever. The common Korean simply doesn't have enough interest in the arts or cultural development.

Corporations don't support any of the arts unless it's something extremely trendy. Koreans are very sensitive to trends; when something's hot, everything else gets totally ignored. If opera is the craze, then people only go see the opera; they don't go see anything else. Look at the musical scene: As soon as a singer reaches a certain age, people don't even pay attention anymore. They just get washed away by a new trend.

'We need cocktails of talent, not single-ingredient drinks.'
— Kim Pyeong-joon

The debut age for singers also seems to be getting younger and younger.

Now, kids are debuting during middle school! So I guess the real problem is that Koreans are very narrow-minded; they only look at one thing and ignore everything else.

And it's not like that in Paris?

Absolutely not. Over there, they look at all types and fields of art and try to develop eclectically, not singularly.

When you arrived in Paris, was there anything different from what you expected?

I didn't expect things to have such variety. In Korea, we're all about what's supposed to be and what already is, whereas over there, it was all about what could be. There was just so much eclecticism — different types of creation.

In Korea, things were stagnant. On the other hand, because we're so artistically immobile we have managed to astronomically develop in technology, which is fine. But it worries me when people look at only the machines and the technology, and not at humanity; nobody looks within themselves. We've been called a technological empire, but it's a real problem when everything revolves around machinery with no

reflection on where humanity fits amongst all of it. People look at their smartphones more than they look at their friends, or even their lovers!

What was the most important realization or inspiration you received while in Paris?

That would definitely be the ability to reflect on my hometown, Gwangju, and its citizens. Up until then, I'd mostly drawn in the naturalism mode, scenery and objects — but after arriving in Paris, I realized that I needed to draw people, images of people living their lives, be they happy or suffering. I wanted to capture that life force you witness in regular people going about their daily routines. I wanted to show Gwangju people as they were.

I realized that the biggest obligation of an artist is not to dwell on the future or past, but to reflect on one's own time and generation, to express it as vividly as possible. Before you inspire anyone else, the first person you need to inspire is yourself.

What are you working on these days?

I've really become interested in plain drawings, with no paint or color, using plain pencil or ink, to try and express as much as possible using the most basic materials.

What do you think is the biggest problem in the Korean art community?

The exclusion, probably. People love to exclude each other in Korea. They don't convene or share ideas. Also, marketers and people with money aren't willing to take risks in supporting new artists. They only go with the safe bets — those whom they know will bring in money.

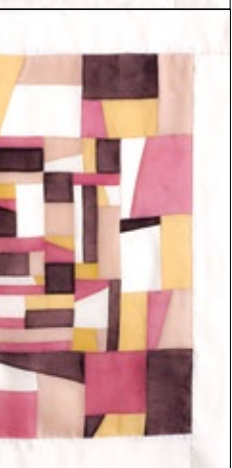
Also, we've always been a nation very susceptible to the influence of bigger and more powerful countries. Lately I think our artists are becoming highly influenced by Chinese artists. Unlike us, the Chinese have always valued what's theirs, as opposed to following somebody else's. Here we've tried to imitate pop art in America, artists in France, Spain and now China. We need to focus more on creating our own vision.

How would you like the art community to develop in the future?

I'd mostly like people to show more interest in the arts, to support upcoming talent and to realize that there isn't just one way to do something. There's always a multiple number of ways to be a painter, a writer — whatever. We need cocktails of talent, not single-ingredient drinks.

Kim's wife, Woo Young-hee, returns to the workshop, having finished attending





to visitors/customers. She is a renowned practitioner of traditional Korean handcraft art, the very kind that decorated the interior of royal and aristocratic homes during the Joseon Dynasty period: carefully hand-dyed fabrics woven into intricate knots, elegant lanterns that filter candlelight through soft colors, draperies composed of countless hues and fabrics, all hand-stitched. The few but precious displays of work visible around us required many dedicated and tedious hours to complete. Her specialty is called Gyubang Gongyae, the type of textile artwork that decorated the quarters of Joseon palatial women.

How did the two of you meet?

(They both look at each other and laugh)
Kim: On the street.

On the street?

Woo: Oh, come on! Tell it in a fun way — don't tell it like that.

Kim: What do you mean "fun way?" That stuff's for the movies. In real life, boys and girls just happen to meet, and that's what happens.

Still, there's always one person who makes the first move, right?

Kim: Of course, I made the first move. We were both living in Seoul, in Insa-dong, and I approached her and, well ... the rest is history.

Mrs. Woo, before moving to Paris, did you have any prior plans to move abroad?

Woo: Yeah, I wanted to go to Japan. But then I met this guy (gesturing to Kim), so that plan fell through!

What were you able to learn in Paris?

Woo: I first did a lot of studies on engravings and prints, which ended up helping me a lot when I started my own work on Gyubang. I also did a lot of work with colors, experimenting with different shades and hues, finding out what meshed and what didn't.

Basically, your entire life made a complete change in direction.

Woo: You could definitely say that!

Kim: Women didn't have much choice back then but to follow their husbands! (Laughs)

So did you become interested in Gyubang art when you got to Paris?

Woo: No, I was still interested in traditional knots and the dyeing process. The silk threads all have to be dyed by hand, and the process is very slow and arduous. It takes a lot of training.

Kim: Don't just tell him about it, show him some pictures!

Woo walks over to a bookshelf, pulls out a thick volume and leafs through the pages to show pictures of various traditional Korean knots. They vary in shape from butterflies to chrysanthemums, and boast a variety of colors that are hard to describe in words. The palettes displayed are certainly very different from those seen in the fabrics at the average souvenir shop: bright and brilliant — splendid, really — but not tacky in the slightest.

Kim describes, how in the ancient days, every process involved in the making of such intricate knots had a separate professional assigned: one person for dyeing, one person to refine the silk, one person to do the stitching, and so on — a process which all has to be done by one person today.

Woo: It's a lost art, with only a few people left who have the necessary skills, and nobody really wants to learn them anymore.

Kim: Think of the fact that, back in the day, they needed stuff like this for clothing, for official pendants — precious beauty and art was in their daily lives! The ancient Koreans had a much better sense of color than any modernite does.

Woo: The stuff you see in the dramas is all fake — totally plastic, cheap material imported from China. True Joseon colors don't give off that sort of fake glimmer. They resonate with true elegant beauty.

What draws you to Gyubang art the most?

Woo: It combines everything — stitching, knots, traditional fabrics, dyeing. All of it. You need a combination of skills.

We hear you're teaching such skills these days, giving classes and lectures.

Woo: There are a few cultural centers that request me to teach a few courses, so I teach them.

'Unlike us, the Chinese have always valued what's theirs, as opposed to following somebody else's. Here, we've tried to imitate pop art in America, artists in France, Spain and now China. We need to focus more on creating our own vision.' — Kim Pyeong-joon

Are there any young people trying to learn this stuff?

Woo: They want to learn some things, but I'm not sure if anybody wants to learn the entire process these days, the skills the ancients had. These kids mostly want to com-



bine stuff into modern design, and so don't stick around long enough.

Nobody?

Woo: We'll see. There are a few kids I'm teaching now, but I can't say for sure how long they'll stick around. You can't really make money sticking with true tradition. You need to be able to make a product out of it. Capitalization.

'In Korea, we're all about what's supposed to be and what already is, whereas in Paris, it was all about what could be. There was just so much eclecticism — different types of creation. In Korea, things were stagnant.' — Kim Pyeong-joon

What are you working on for the future?

Woo: Just to keep experimenting with different dyes, stitching and techniques. I want to try to create something new, maybe a little more artistic than the traditional work I've learned from — something more creative.

Stuff back then was beautiful, but also had a practical element. Today, it's all pure art, so I wanted to take a purely artistic route. I used to live in the mountains nearby, and it was much better for dyeing over there — much closer to the original methods.

What's the most difficult part of your work?

Woo: You have to do everything by hand! And you can't just leave it for somebody else to do, either. I have to do everything personally, spending a lot of time and energy. Sometimes, when orders come in for certain products, I have to stay up all night. A lot of people think this stuff is simple. For

example, that tapestry over there (pointing to one hanging on the wall) contains multiple colors and stitching that's as complex and as precise as a puzzle. But many people think it's either machine-made or doesn't take the grueling effort it actually requires.

Underappreciated is most art.

Woo: Certainly!

Sometime during the conversation, Kim had gotten up and left. He returns now, and concludes the interview with a trip to his studio just a few blocks away from the workshop. He offers a view of his latest work, drawings constructed solely with either ink or pencil — simplicity at its finest. The common eye often mistakes his work as Picasso-imitating, but his work is something entirely different; something very unique.

Kim: People think pencil can only be used for sketches, but I want to prove that you can do much more than just a sketch with a pencil. You can create a complete work.

His drawings depict people toiling through canvas of life — happy, sad, grim: They are all meshed together on the paper. Some of his drawings use hanji (traditional Korean paper). A pail of pencils commonly used by Korean high-school students stands on an old coffee table; a closer look reveals that they've been sharpened by hand and knife.

Kim: And so here I am, trying to show people living their daily lives, trying to capture them trying to get through this mess we call life.

GROOVE

Penélope Cruz, Palacio Marqués de Villafranca
Madrid, November 2012



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'People saw me as something different. Colorful hair. Piercings. People were fascinated, and I represented something new and different at the time, I guess.'



SMACKSOFT: THE MUSIC OF DISCONTENT

Story and Photos by Sabrina Hill

● Music is both a by-product of culture and a precursor to social change. As Plato said, "Music is a moral law." In healthy times it symbolizes the very best we have to hope for; in bad times it questions the failings of our leaders, spiritual and political. If left to form organically, a vibrant scene will emerge and great artists and bands will arise. Out of Seoul, a quiet revolution kicked off in the wake of economic and political failings in the '90s, which gave birth to artists like Whang Bo-ryung of SmackSoft.

"Music is like oxygen," expounds the front-woman in an interview with Groove Korea. "Without it, I'm suspended in a vacuum."

Seoul is a place that in many ways is not different from any other mega-city. It has a vibrant culture and is a breeding ground for small, eclipsed countercultures, or as much as it can be in a land of Confucian conformity. In a country famous for its auto-tuned dancing boys and girls, a place obsessed with punchy, oversaturated girl and boy bands, which offer nothing to the progression of music as a discipline or an art form, an underground subculture exists.

Since the 1990s, a small but growing circle of bands and artists have fought the good fight; producing and playing in the impalpable rock scene of Seoul in places reminiscent of London's UFO club. In 1997, Korea, along with a number of other Asian nations, entered a devastating economic crisis that would sweep the world and crash global markets. With the crisis stirring up the fears

and discontent of young Koreans, a cultural shift began to take place.

In Seoul, an angry class of under- or unemployed college grads began to express themselves in ways often unseen in the glossy veneer of Korea's capital. In clubs with colorful names hidden in the darkest of winding and unending alleys of Hongdae, the screams began to rise, accompanied by driving percussion and fuzzy guitars; songs sharing their discontent with unresponsive public officials and abusive, shortsighted capitalists began to emerge from the collective body of a jilted youth.

In sitting down with Whang Bo-ryung, the front-woman of SmackSoft, she talks of the scene in Seoul when she returned to her birth nation during the very difficult times of the mid-to-late '90s. She recalls that the scene was not so different from that of London in the late '60s, where out of the quiet desperation of a young, angry generation some of the best music was born. Bo, as she likes to be known, reminisces about the scene when she made her emergence as a solo artist. "There were fewer bands around and the atmosphere was entirely different back then."

After spending her formative years growing up in New York City during the hardcore punk and street punk days, Bo set out on an extended tramp around the world to find herself and her voice. "Japan, Vietnam, France, Thailand — I just needed to travel, to see the world, so I left home."

After learning to focus all of her artistic gifts into a medium that seemed natural to this accomplished iconoclast, she returned to Korea in 1998 and put out her first solo album, "Cat with Three Ears." With a penetrating, husky voice and a unique, colorful musical accompaniment, Bo made a dent in the burgeoning Seoul underground. She recalls those early



'Japan, Vietnam, France, Thailand
— I just needed to travel, to see
the world, so I left home.'
— Whang Bo-ryung

MORE INFO: For more information on SmackSoft, go to their website, www.smacksoft.net. They're also on Facebook (/smacksoft) and Twitter (@SmackSoft).

days: "From '96 to '98 when I was working on my first album, I was playing a lot of acoustic shows. Just me and my guitar. People saw me as something different. Colorful hair. Piercings. People were fascinated, and I represented something new and different at the time, I guess." Bo describes her look back then as New York punk and her sound from the album "Cat with Three Ears" as "punkno," a curious fusion of punk and an early-German industrial techno.

Korea, with all its beauty, has inalienable characteristics. This country innately places a higher value on the elderly and the wealthy; as a result, a youthful antagonism began to manifest among a seething underclass. London, Seattle, New York or Seoul, the reason for the maturation of an underground alternative rock scene is always the same. It is an impulse, a compulsion, to express the outrage of the collective youth. This cultural shift inevitably led to the rise of the petulant protopunk bands and artists like Bo.

After Bo's second album, "Sun Sign," she fell off the grid. Wanting to develop her other artistic talents, in 2003 she went back to New York to get her B.F.A. from the Pratt Institute. Bo cites motivation from a high school teacher who recognized her gifts and prompted her to head to the noted art college. After an eight-year absence

from the music scene in Seoul, this intelligent and introverted rocker returned, this time with the modest goal of re-tooling her sound and applying the theories of dimension, light and color into her music. What she learned at Pratt, and naturally developed as she saw and experienced more, she took to the studio and created the innovative EP "SmackSoft 2.5," which went on to win the Korean Album of the Year award in 2008 from Gaseum Network Art and Culture Group.

While her name started to become synonymous with the avant-garde sound in Seoul, the once-angry youth began to become a part of the system she once clashed with. The "Seoul sound" that embodied the disgruntled youth of the 90s began to wither in the early part of the last decade. It was crushed under the weight of the addictive and artistically unsophisticated opiate for the Korean commonage. The battle cries were replaced with the monotonous seasonal sounds of sexually-suggestive teens singing about "sexy boy" and smartphones.

Since the release of "SmackSoft 2.5" in 2008, the band has gone on to release three more albums: "Shines in the Dark" in 2009, "Mana Wind" in 2010 and "Follow Your Heart" last year. Bo and the rest of SmackSoft embarked upon an American tour of small and large towns in search of a willing, participatory audience who can ap-



preciate hypnotic tracks like "It is You and Me" from their fifth album. Discovering that they had fans in the strangest of places gave the band the energy to continue.

Members of the band have come and gone and the sound has changed, but all of the current members — Seo Jin-sil on drums, Ryu Seong-hyun on guitar, Kang Ha-neul on keyboard and Shin G-yong on bass — appreciate their opportunity to keep the sound alive in Seoul and around the world. "I don't know what the next SmackSoft album will sound like just yet, but it will reflect where we are as individuals, and as a collective. That's always what we've done in the studio, and I don't see that process changing," says Bo.

Drawing on the highly talented Bo to add depth, dimensionality and variety to each album, the rest of the band is as equally eclectic.

With an accomplished drummer, a bluesy bass player, a colorful keyboardist, and a truly exceptional guitarist, SmackSoft's albums are ranging, powerful and surprising. When attending a live performance or giving any of their albums a spin, whether it is the industrial-punk rock of SmackSoft's earlier albums or the trippy melodies off of "Follow Your Heart," expect a show that is unlike the mainstream musical fare from Korea.

Look for Bo's solo album in October, which will be an acoustic experiment in sound for this progressive Queen of Punk. Capitalizing on her training as a painter, she plans to include accompanying artwork for each individual track. She intends to display the paintings during upcoming live shows, upping the ante from punk show to avant garde performance art. **GROOVE**

ALTERNATIVE INDIE PUNK ROCK — JINJU STYLE

Interview by **Sophie Boladeras** Photo by **Glen Llyod**

● Indie punk rockers Cancertron will ignite your curiosity with their deviant lyrics and raw sound; just don't bring your Mom to one of their shows. Lead singer and songwriter Mandi Thompson played some of Cancertron's eccentric music to her family in New York last Christmas. Apparently the reception was not good; her Mom left the room crying ... Perhaps she was offended by the song "Fuck City," or it could have been the images conjured up at the sound of "Oedipus' Cock." Whatever it was, the members of Cancertron are currently based in Korea and are belting out some eclectic tunes for your aural pleasure.

Groove Korea: How would you describe your music?

Sean Kenny: Collective soul meets at a burger joint.

Mandi Thompson: ...And then listens to Raekwon while he's cheffing.

Some of your songs have enthralling names: Unicorn Buffalo and Fuck City to name just a couple. Can you tell me about them?

Kenny: Many of the songs are named before the lyrics are made; that was the case for "Clavicle Miraculous." There has been a long history of songwriters making song names or writing lyrics based purely on how the words sound.

What do you do here?

Thompson: We all teach English! We've been here a combined total of 32 years.

Jinju is a fairly small place. There's a pretty cool crumbling castle and there is a huge croquet scene if you're over 75 and



Korean. You pretty much have to make your own fun here. We went through some long periods of heavy drinking; now we just play a lot of cards.

Where was your first gig?

Thompson: We played our first gig at a bar called Jam Bar in Jinju. We got an encore. All of our friends came! It was great! We had played before with the Gay Sexxyyz, but after a long hiatus and with all new songs, it was exciting to make a comeback.

There is a random dialogue at the start of "Clavicle Miraculous." What was the inspiration for that conversation?

Jaime Roth: Arnold Schwarzenegger was the inspiration — we love him. I think his comical genius is highly underappreciated. We wanted to honor his film career with a song slightly longer than a minute.

I listened to your album on Bandcamp. How do you find

selling your music online?

Kenny: Not many buyers at all, just a few die-hards.

Thompson: I think my mom bought 14 copies.

Kenny: It's hard when you don't have a label behind you or someone helping with promotion. Sales spike a little after our shows, so that's how we've been trying to do it.

Can you tell me about the creation of your LP "I Live in Your Basement!"?

Thompson: I wrote most of the songs over the past decade. My parents were going through a divorce and I had a really mean babysitter. I moved into the basement and watched a lot of Lifetime movies and daytime talk shows.

Where would you like to see Cancertron in five years?

Kenny: Alive. Not in Korea.

Thompson: We hope to make mad loot off of this album and then bask in the residuals.

CANCERTRON IS

Mandi Thompson, 26, singer and songwriter (U.S.)

Jaime Roth, 26, front woman and occasional singer (U.S.)

Sean Kenny, 28 (Canada)

MORE INFO

Check Cancertron's Facebook page for future events:
www.facebook.com/Cancertron

GET THEIR MUSIC

You can also listen to or download their music via their Bandcamp website,
cancertron.bandcamp.com.

Cancertron are also on the lookout for a drummer; so if you're based in or near Jinju, get in touch.

GROOVE

'AVENUE Q' BRINGS NEW YORK TO SEOUL

Interview by **Jamie Keener**



Puppets are so innocent and we can't blame them for anything. It's amazing what a puppet can get away with."
— Carly Anderson

GETTING THERE

Charlotte theatre address:
40-1 Jamsil-dong, Songpa-gu,
Seoul, Korea

Tekephone: 82-1644-0078

MORE INFO

Ticket Prices – from 50,000
won to 130,000 won

Schedule – Weekdays 8:00
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p.m., Sunday & Holidays 2:00
p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Age – Over the age of 15
(Adult Content)

Internet Global Booking Site –
ticket.interpark.com/global

English Information line –
1899-0833

● The Tony-Award winning Broadway musical "Avenue Q" is making its way across the Globe and stopping off in Seoul for a two-month adventure.

The coming-of-age production portrays the harsh realities of life through the eyes of some crude and comical puppets. The story takes place on Avenue Q, a shabby area of New York, where a mixed bag of young professionals, homeless, and jobless puppets try and find their purpose in life.

Groove Korea caught up with actors Nicholas Duncan and Carly Anderson to share their controversial journey with puppetry, and to find out what Korea may be in store for.

Duncan, who is a British actor, plays the parts of Princeton, a fresh out of college puppet, and Rod, an uptight investment banker.

Carly Anderson, a Scottish actress, takes on the challenging roles of Kate Monster, your average girl next-door, and Lucy the Slut, a trashy south-

ern belle. With an added twist of controversy, raunchiness and sexual innuendos what was it that inspired the actors to audition for this unique musical?

"It is a challenge to audition for a show and to be expected to perform a variety of disciplines," Anderson said. "It's difficult to find a show where you have the opportunity to play two very different roles," she added.

Duncan was trained as a classical musical theater actor. He said, "I remember back in 2004 a friend telling me I needed to listen to this song, a monster singing about porn in a musical. I downloaded the whole soundtrack. I thought, "This is great, this is what musical theater is about." It was just so different and the human behind the puppet is amazing. It's incredibly rewarding when you watch yourself in a mirror and you can see that you brought this dead thing to life."

From a global standpoint, Korea has not yet been exposed to such raw entertainment with

issues of racism, homosexuality, and pornography before. The actors shared their thoughts on how the audience might respond to this type of musical.

"We're excited because Korea hasn't had this type of show before, and it's a privilege for us to be the first people to kind of push those boundaries in a good way. Everyone faces these issues, no matter what nationality. I hope it brings about a healthy conversation about these subjects that maybe people wouldn't otherwise talk about," Duncan said.

Duncan and Anderson hope the audience will be shocked and delighted at the same time. "Puppets are so innocent and we can't blame them for anything. It's amazing what a puppet can get away with," Anderson said.

"Avenue Q" premieres on August 23rd and runs until October 6th at the Charlotte theatre.

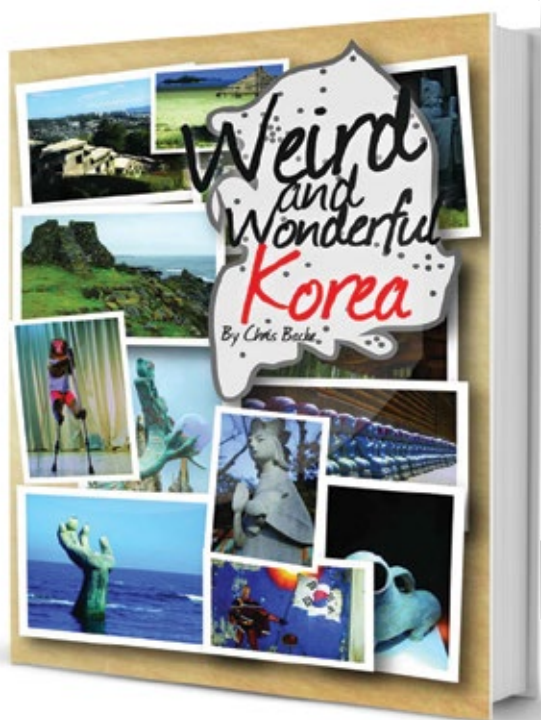
GROOVE



'WEIRD AND WONDERFUL KOREA'

Chris Backe's new travel guide will take you places others won't

Review by **Britney Dennison**



WEIRD AND WONDERFUL KOREA

By Chris Backe

328 pages

Available for purchase in print and on Kindle through Amazon

Kindle Price: \$11.99

'IT'S THE ONLY BOOK OUT THERE THAT FOCUSES ON THE ODDBALL, THE UNUSUAL AND THE WEIRD.'

● Lonely Planet, Rough Guides and Frommer's occupy the top tier of travel guides, providing information for planning and executing a successful trip. But when does the usefulness of one of these guidebooks fade? After one month? A year?

"The mainstream books are popular for a reason — they have plenty of marketing support, offer a lot of information and are easily found at any bookstore," says Chris Backe, the Illinois native behind the popular blog "Chris in Korea." According to him, "For a lot of people, however, they don't want to go to the same places as everyone else."

"Weird and Wonderful Korea," Backe's new travel guide, differentiates itself from conventional guides by offering insight and information into some of Korea's lesser-known attractions and destinations. It is his fourth book, the third was written on the subject of Korean culture.

Backe says his guidebook was a natural follow-up to his successful travel blog, which he has been contributing to since he first started visa applications in December 2007.

When Backe moved to Korea five years ago, he made it his mission to visit a new destination, festival or event at least once a week. "Some of the destinations (in the book) have appeared on the blog first. That said, the book makes a special effort to string together

places that are close by — you know, really make a weekend out of it."

Complete with 122 destinations and 28 separate itineraries, "Weird and Wonderful Korea" is a comprehensive guidebook written specifically for seasoned travelers and expats.

The itineraries are grouped together geographically. Within these locations there are topical tours. "Itinerary No. 3 – Southern Seoul, Gangnam Style: A Tour of Contemporary Seoul," is a unique itinerary that includes the BK Plastic Surgery Museum and the Simone Handbag Museum. These destinations are intended to highlight the upscale lifestyle and high-end fashions that characterize Gangnam.

"It's the only book out there that focuses on the oddball, the unusual and the weird stuff around the country," says Backe.

True to his claim, Backe profiles many of the stranger destinations across Korea — everything from the toilet museum in Suwon to the martial arts training at a temple in Gyeongju.

For each destination, there are also detailed directions with addresses written in both English and Korean.

"I wanted to have a resource I'd be proud to use myself," says Backe, who is now living in Bangkok, Thailand.

He is currently working on his fifth book, which will feature the strange and lesser-known destinations in Thailand. **GROOVE**

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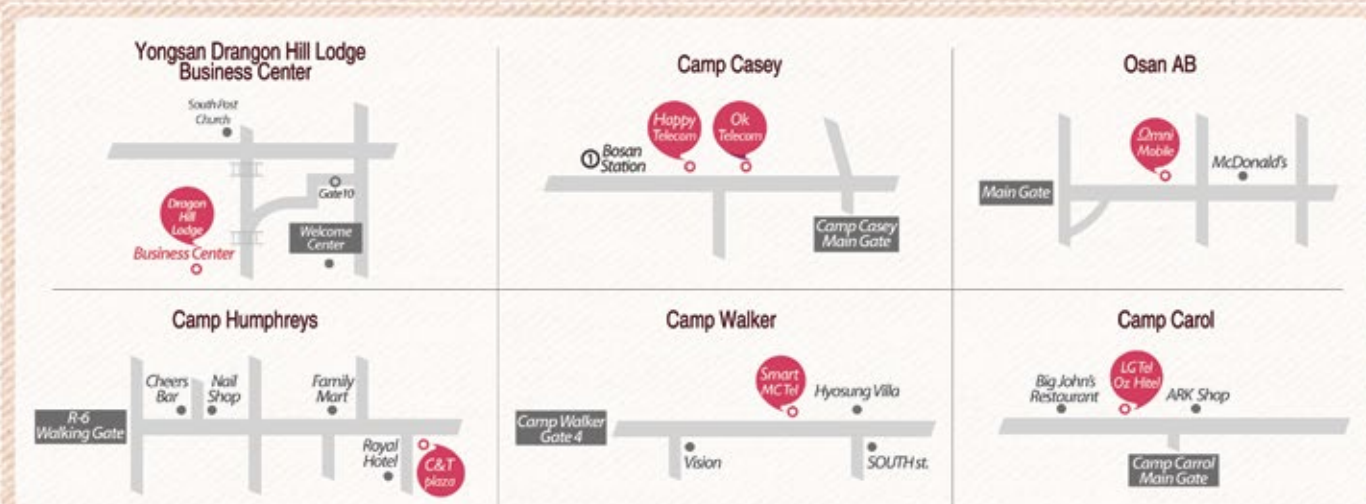
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AT THE BOX OFFICE THE BIG SCREEN

By Dean Crawford

Only God Forgives

Directed by **Nicholas Winding Refn**



August
Drama / Thriller
90 minutes

● Even though Ryan Gosling has been around for a long time, I feel like I've only really found out about the guy in the last few years. Not being from North America, I wasn't aware of Gosling's early fame on the Mickey Mouse Club and I only recall watching him for the first time in Marc Forster's 2005 film "Stay."

Even though I remember seeing him skulk around with greasy hair as the troubled Henry Letham, the only things memorable were the editing and Ewan McGregor's terrible American accent. Ryan Gosling was an afterthought. But when I saw Derek Cianfrance's "Blue Valentine" (2010), I started to believe the hype. I thought he was superb and was flabbergasted that he didn't receive an Oscar nomination.

You could argue that it wasn't until the release of Nicolas Winding Refn's "Drive" (2011) that he was firmly cemented on the Hollywood A-list. Not only did the film accentuate his boyish good looks, but it also showed he could also be a total badass. "Drive" made him a superstar. Gos-

ling and Winding Refn have teamed up again in the Bangkok-set "Only God Forgives," which is released this month. I'm afraid I've purposefully stayed away from the trailers for this one, so here is the synopsis from its Facebook page:

"Julian (Gosling) is a drug kingpin tasked with avenging his brother's death, but a mysterious, unhinged policeman is following his every move."

"Drive" was a critical and commercial success, winning the Best Director Award at the 2011 Cannes film festival and earning over \$75 million worldwide — very impressive for an art-house film made on a \$15 million budget.

With the same director and actor combination, I have no doubt that "Only God Forgives" will replicate some of that commercial success. But will it replicate the same critical achievements? Well, the fact that the film was booed at its world premiere at this year's Cannes festival isn't a very encouraging sign, but given the quality of the pair's previous works, I'll be there on opening day regardless of the reviews.

GROOVE

Elysium

Directed by **Neill Blomkamp**



August
29 Action/
Sci-fi

● While I like to think that I have a very creative vocabulary, my girlfriend simply calls me a potty mouth because she thinks I swear too much. We'd have to agree to disagree on that one, though I do have a vast array of curse words in my arsenal. That being said, one film-based insult that was relatively new to me was hearing someone call an alien a "fockin' prawn." I was blown away by the gravitas that this strange insult carried, and was blown away further by the film in which I heard it: Neill Blomkamp's excellent debut, the Oscar-nominated "District 9" (2009).

Not only was "District 9" an amazing film, but it was also an interesting social commentary highlighting race relations in South Africa; an apartheid allegory, if you will. All that from a film about aliens that find themselves stranded on Earth!

Neill Blomkamp is returning with his highly anticipated sophomore effort, "Elysium," starring Matt Damon and Jodie Foster.

According to Greek mythology, Elysium is a paradise the gods created for the mortals who

had been given immortality. In this film, Elysium is a human-made, luxurious space station that houses the rich, while the poor and diseased are forced to stay on a decaying and desolate Earth. Max Da Costa (Damon) is one of the many who have been forced to remain. After discovering that he only has five days to live, De Costa decides that the sole way to find a cure for himself (and the millions of others who are left behind on Earth) is to break into Elysium.

It seems as if Blomkamp is once again using sci-fi to comment on issues affecting today's society. Vulture.com reported that he described the film as "a science-fiction take on the haves and have-nots and the separation of wealth."

Don't worry, even though the site described "Elysium" as "smarter than your average action movie," it appears that it is still an action movie, complete with guns, violence and explosions. As Blomkamp says, "It's got a copious amount of robotics and guns, so that's cool." Yes, very cool indeed, and I can't wait to see it!

GROOVE

KOREAN DVD CORNER

THE SMALL SCREEN

By Dean Crawford

Masquerade (광해: 왕이 된 남자)

Directed by **Choo Chang-min**

PG-15
Historical drama
131 minutes



● Without a doubt, one of the most versatile actors working today is Lee Byung-hun, who can effortlessly switch between playing a vengeful boyfriend hunting his girlfriend's killer in "I Saw the Devil" (2010) and a Samurai assassin in the Hollywood blockbuster franchise "G.I. Joe." He has taken on another new role in his latest film, Choo Chang-min's period drama "Masquerade."

In the 15th century, Korea's leader, Gwanghae (Lee), is full of suspicion and fearful for his life. As a result, he orders one of his most trusted staff members to find a double who can sleep in the king's chambers overnight. When the king is near-fatally poisoned, his double, Ha-seon (again, played by Lee), who is no more than a jester from a local brothel, must sit on the most important chair in all of Korea until the real king is well enough to return to the throne.

At first, it appears as if their plan will fail. Ha-seon is constantly making mistakes and is forever being told to change his tone, as a king's voice should be "low and solemn." But his low status

allows him to look at Korea's affairs in a new light, caring more about the plight of the common people than the interests of the rich or the invading Chinese. This causes his staff and aides to wonder if Ha-seon could well be the king that Korea deserves, rather than the disillusioned dictator who, until recently, has ruled them so coldly.

There have been countless variations of Mark Twain's "The Prince and the Pauper," but most critics agree that what makes this version stand out is Lee's performance. Even if you're not a fan of the lead actor or the film's premise, the sets and cinematography are gorgeous.

With Lee's stellar performance carrying the film, "Masquerade" has been well received not only in Asia, but all over the world. The film cleaned up at the Grand Bell Awards (Korea's version of BAFTA) and picked up prizes at several other Korean festivals. Amazingly, at the time of writing, the film was sitting on a 100 percent "fresh" rating at Rotten Tomatoes. I can see why, and would recommend it as a must-see. **GROOVE**

A Werewolf Boy (늑대소년X)

Directed by **Jo Sung-hee**

PG-15
Fantasy/Romance
125 minutes



● "A Werewolf Boy" first premiered at last year's Busan International Film Festival before it went on to become a runaway success, demolishing everything in its path, including the James Bond juggernaut, "Skyfall." According to Korean culture website Mwave, the film set a record for gathering the largest audience ever on the day of suneung, the college entrance exam, selling over 340,000 tickets. This is apparently a very big deal. Given that millions of Koreans have seen the film and it's been accepted into countless festivals around the world, I was very much looking forward to seeing it.

The film opens up in present-day America where an elderly Soon-yi is expecting a phone call from her granddaughter in Korea. Instead, she receives some distressing news about her family home and must fly back to Korea at once. She is greeted by her granddaughter at the airport, and together they visit the childhood home.

Rewind 40 years to a time when, having lost her father, a sickly Soon-yi and her family move

into their new home. To add to their misfortunes, they discover Cheol-soo, a savage teenager hiding in the barn who acts like a wild dog.

Soon-yi doesn't take too kindly to Cheol-soo, but the more time they spend together, the more protective Cheol-soo becomes of Soon-yi, defending her from the family's lecherous landlord. On one summer evening, the landlord takes things too far, striking Soon-yi and sending Cheol-soo into a frenzy where he transforms into a vicious werewolf. The villagers hear of the incident and call in external forces to take care of this strange situation. This is much to the dismay of Soon-yi, who can see through his hairy exterior and falls in love with the beast.

With its soft-focus shots and a savage teenager who really just looks like he came straight out of a Korean boy band, the film has clearly been made with high-schoolers in mind. But with the themes of long-lost love and the family unit at the film's core, I can see why it has appealed to so many. **GROOVE**

THE MIGHTIEST TRIVIA NIGHTS IN THE LAND

WRANGLE UP A TEAM, STOCK UP ON USELESS FACTS
AND GO LOCK HORNS OVER A PINT

Story by **Ian Henderson and Jon Linke** / Illustrations by **Jon Linke** / Photo by **Jasmine Guerin-Jones**

● There are several criteria that can cause someone to be diagnosed as a trivia hound: A penchant for alcohol and possessing a treasure trove of minutiae are definitely early symptoms. Valuing nerdy debate in lieu of pool or darts is another risk factor.

Finally, the realization after your team's first win that all these factors combined could actually bankroll one's drinking habit is enough to turn some of us into maniacs. Local quiz junkies Ian Henderson and Jon Linke have scoured the Itaewon area looking for the mightiest trivia nights in the land. Hundreds of pints of beer and several blood feuds with rival nerds later, they have emerged from the rubble to give you the scoop. Each review contains a sample question, so try and play along as you read.



TRIVIA DON'TS

Before playing, please note a few trivia don'ts that are pretty standard in all venues

- Don't use your smartphone. This is also known as CHEATING.
- Don't bring a whole NBA starting lineup of people. Even with all the handicap points bound to be lumped on you, you will have to share the prize amongst your massive entourage. Not worth it!
- Don't call out the answers! Seems obvious, but it happens.
- Don't be a stickler when marking other teams. It's a competition, yes, but everyone is a good sport.

WARNING

It is worth mentioning that we conducted our research in April and May, and things are always subject to change, as we found out the hard way. 3 Alley's infamous quiz night has been on hiatus for the better part of a year, Wolfhound's is M.I.A. and Orange Tree is in limbo until they find a new Trivia Master (if you're interested, contact them).

Additionally, there are quite a few more games scattered around the city — as well as the rest of the country — in places where expats congregate. We decided, however, to only review the area with a high density where players have a variety to choose from.



ED NOTE

The views expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of Groove Korea. — Ed.



1

SHENANIGANS

Tuesdays at 9 p.m.

Seoul, Yongsan-gu, Itaewon-dong 168-3

1ST PLACE: 30,000 won bar tab

2ND PLACE: 20,000 won bar tab

3RD PLACE: pitcher of beer

Formerly known as Bless U, this is actually the home base of our trivia team, and for good reason. There are two dungeon — err, trivia — masters who run the affair: Scott and Matt. Both make damn fine quizzes and prefer questions that require a bit of mental gymnastics. Expect to draw maps in your head, correlate timeframes and use a process of elimination to come up with answers.

There are five rounds of 10 questions each, usually verbal, but often utilizing audio-visual clues. There is always a printed round on a separate piece of paper that you can complete over the duration of the game, such as identifying 20 different dog breeds, album covers, etc. The competition is fast and furious, running just over an hour. There aren't any random point allocation systems either; it's one point per question, with no gambling of any sort. In the event of a tie, the chugging of a beer is how disputes are settled.

There are also a few bonus questions for free shots.

The event is followed by a supplemental game involving a cash pot buy-in that is matched by the bar. With only a couple of minutes to answer a ridiculous mind puzzle, the winnings often roll over to the next week, resulting in sizeable treasure chests worth of booty.

PROS: It's challenging and fun with fantastic camaraderie and great prizes.

CONS: Losing a battle of wits to a beer chug-off is a bitter pill to swallow.

SAMPLE QUESTION: "What country comes next? Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan..."

DIRECTIONS: Straight out of Itaewon Station, exit 1, walk a few minutes and turn right at the double ATMs. It's on the second floor on your left, below Chili King.

2

CRAFTWORKS

Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m.

Seoul, Yongsan-gu, Itaewon-dong 651

1ST PLACE: 50,000 won bar tab

2ND PLACE: a round of drinks

LAST PLACE: a bottle of soju

Craftworks has a lot going for it, so it probably doesn't need a trivia night to bring people out. Nonetheless, if you feel like partaking, we'd suggest coming early as the tables fill up fast.

Expect your standard trivia here: 60 or so questions, with the occasional shout-out question for a free craft beer or glass. They even have a PA so people out in the smoking section can play too.

The categories can range from pretty standard (cartoons) to nightmarishly specific (hard-core Harry Potter zealot fare). The nights we've been have included some categories that would completely knock an otherwise decent team off the point map if they didn't have a specialist in their midst.

It moves along well enough and usually wraps up by around 10:30 p.m.

PROS: Lots of competition, great for socializing and great food and beer.

CONS: A few questionable category choices, and if you want to save money by drinking Cass the whole night, you're out of luck.

SAMPLE QUESTION: "What TV cartoon theme song begins with the lines, 'I want to be the very best, like no one ever was?'"

DIRECTIONS: Straight out of Noksapyeong Station, exit 2, walk straight and cross via the underpass, exiting on the left. Follow the crosswalk and it'll be on your right past NOXA.



3

BULL & BARREL

Tuesdays at 9 p.m.

Seoul, Yongsan-gu Itaewon-dong 44-84

1ST PLACE: Cash pot, varies weekly

This is the newcomer on the list, both as an establishment and a trivia night. Because of this, they have yet to develop the burgeoning crowds of some of the other quizzes. However, that should not be mistaken as an indicator of quality. This diamond in the rough has all the makings of a quiz champion.

First of all, they consistently have some of the best food and drink specials in town, like “buy one get one free” draft microbrews. Yep, Indica IPAs are cheaper than domestic swill!

Secondly, the place is quite comfortable, with several sprawling levels and ample seats and tables — meaning no one is left standing or using a window ledge as a perch.

Finally, the game itself and the prizes are top-notch. Quiz Master Dom makes a beast of a session, requiring collaborative deductive reasoning and basing each night on a specific letter of the alphabet. So if you’re there on “D” night, expect questions about Deutschland, disco, death, etc. Like most wizened hosts, he incorporates multimedia to liven things up. There’s a 10,000 won buy-in per team, which is matched by the bar. We rolled out of there stuffed, buzzed and with our pockets lined with cash.

PROS: Great specials, good atmosphere, excellent game and blue-ribbon plunder.

CONS: Occasional slow nights with less competition. Also, pay to play, which can be a bummer — for the losers, that is!

SAMPLE QUESTION: “Which famous fashion designer was a main supplier of uniforms for Nazi Germany?”

DIRECTIONS: Straight out of Itaewon Station, exit 4, walk towards the end of the street and turn left at the Corner Bag Shop before the McDonald’s. Keep to the right at the fork in the alley, and the bar is on your left.

4

ROCKY MOUNTAIN TAVERN

Sundays at 6:30 p.m.

Seoul, Yongsan-gu, Hannam-dong 736-21

1ST PLACE: Cash pot, varies weekly

This place runs a pretty slick trivia with all the fixin’s. Not only is it massive, with 90 questions plus three “beer bonus rounds,” but it also has a very dynamic presentation with pictures, video, audio, PowerPoint slides and occasionally a bonus “Wheel of Fortune” wheel! It draws a pretty good crowd, with around 8-10 teams participating. Everyone starts by throwing in 3,000 won and the pot is given to the winning team. The categories can be anything from famous speeches to identifying pieces of popular music being covered by a string quartet. The first category is always current events, so if you’re up on your news, expect to have an advantage!

The night is run by resident stand-up comedians, and as would be expected, the environment is lively and fun. It moves at a brisk pace, never going on for too long. In the end, to make things even more interesting, the winning team must perform a karaoke song chosen by the losing team in order to claim their prize. Reluctant karaoke is always hilarious, in case you’ve never seen it. Truly a tour-de-force.

PROS: Great use of multimedia, a healthy serving of questions and some karaoke to top it off.

CONS: The 3,000 won buy-in may put a few people off.

SAMPLE QUESTION: “The Phantom of the Opera’ is set in which city’s opera house?”

DIRECTIONS: Straight out of Itaewon Station, exit 3, for 5 minutes. It will be on your right, second floor.



5

DILLINGER'S

Thursdays at 9 p.m.

Seoul, Yongsan-gu, Itaewon-dong 72-32

1ST PLACE: 40,000 won bar tab

2ND PLACE: a pitcher of beer

Another of the big'uns as far as crowd size is concerned. The same caveat as Craftworks applies here: Show up disproportionately early if you wish to sit.

The logistics of this trivia march to the beat of a different drum. To try and put this simply, there's a bizarre point allocation system and the questions aren't grouped into categories. Additionally, you have to write down your bet and answer and take them to the Trivia Master. FOR. EVERY. SINGLE. QUESTION. For "chomping at the bit" trivia geeks, this system is soul-crushingly slow. It was so tedious that one of us (Ian) actually fell asleep in the middle of the game.

Annoying? Yes. But strangely enough, this proves to be Dillinger's greatest strength as well as its greatest weakness. Much like watching NFL games in bars simply to facilitate hanging out and stuffing wings into one's face, this is an equal-opportunity trivia. Even for people who could care less about flexing their cranial muscles, it's a good time to hang out. Furthermore, the point gambling system turns it into a crapshoot as much as a game of trivia, helping spread the wealth around.

Socialites should rejoice; quiz purists should tread with care. It should also be pointed out that trivia nights here run in 12 week progressive seasons, with large prizes for the top three cumulative winners at the end.

PROS: It's a raucous party that's packed with plenty of time to eat, drink and be merry.

CONS: It moves at a snail's pace, provides little mental stimulation and is essentially verbal gambling.

SAMPLE QUESTION: "In business, what does the term 'J.I.T.' stand for?"

DIRECTIONS: Head straight out of Itaewon Station, exit 4, for a few minutes. It'll be on your left, second floor, with a bright yellow awning.



6

PHILLIES

Wednesdays at 9 p.m.

Seoul, Yongsan-gu 2-ga 44-17

1ST PLACE: 30,000 won bar tab

2ND PLACE: two pitchers of beer

This HBC mainstay has a very well-intentioned trivia night that falls short mainly due to the perpetually distracted participants. The Quiz Mistress certainly puts a lot of heart and thought into her questions, but the last time we were there, she seemed to have to compete for the crowd's attention every time she tried to read.

There's a good selection of multimedia questions with audio and visual clues, but it can be hard to name-that-tune in a roomful of rowdy patrons, many of whom left the game halfway through. We also spotted a team with a full-on media suite of smartphones and iPads on the table during the game, which is a tremendous no-no in the world of trivia.

It is worth mentioning, however, that the owners run a game of their own, which immediately follows trivia and is thrilling as all hell. Each team is given one big question and must race to provide a list of answers. The first team to submit all the right answers receives bar credit, and if no one wins, that value carries over to the next week. Last time we were there, the jackpot had risen to 162,000 won, resulting in some gripping, white-knuckle action.

PROS: A healthy dose of fun visual hints and an amazing post-game round.

CONS: Some crowd-control issues, including unchecked use of smartphones.

SAMPLE QUESTION: "Lake Baikal contains approximately what percentage of Earth's fresh water?"

DIRECTIONS: Go straight out of Noksapyeong Station, exit 2, and hang left at the kimchi pots. It will be a few minutes ahead on your left.



Answer Key: Kazakhstan, Pokémon, Hugo Boss, Paris, Just in time, 20 percent

LOVE SHACKS, BABY!

Korea's 'love motels' are not just for lovers

Story and Photos by **Anthony Levero**

● So you've reached that point in your hotel-planning career in which you concede that your dignity is less important to you than your money. While love motels serve as a discreet hanky-panky rendezvous for young Korean couples living with parents or older folks having extramarital flings, there's no law against weary travelers using them for a more G-rated night's sleep. Whatever series of mistakes and misfortunes brought you down this dark, love-stained path, rest assured that you can do far worse than Korea's nooky huts.

Down to the dirty facts

Price aside, there are plenty of other reasons for foreign travelers to bed down in a love motel while touring Korea. A major point in their favor is their pervasiveness.

Hostels have not yet made inroads in some of the smaller towns of Korea, and even when they are available, they often aren't the bargain that they are in other countries. Particularly when traveling during major holidays like Chuseok (Korean Thanksgiving) and Seollal (Lunar New Year), more conventional accommodations may fill up quickly. Sometimes it becomes necessary to go this route for lack of other options.

Most don't advertise or maintain websites, so even if it looks like everything in a town is booked, just go anyway and trust that a charming coital-cabin will be waiting for you. Plus, it's a bonus to spend the night some-

where that makes for a story to take home. Vibrating beds, mirrored ceilings and vending machines dispensing adult toys are all missed by those who have the cash to afford the Marriott.

Dark lots and bright lights: choose at your discretion

So now that you've decided to take the plunge, let's discuss how to make your love motel experience as great as possible. First, let's talk about shame. The good news is that you'll have to experience surprisingly little of this. The parking lots are concealed, and no one takes your identification if you pay in cash.

No one will ever know about your stingy hotel-choice if you don't want them to.

Staffers are pretty non-judgmental too. Even if you're a dude requesting to share a bed with your two buddies, the ajumma at the desk probably won't even blink. No matter what extrapolations the staff might mentally make about you, don't worry — they've likely seen much worse.

While most foreigners laugh at the obnoxious neon lights flashing outside love motels, try deciding on a place to stay after a brutal motorcycle trip. Are you going to go for the one with the brightest, most outrageous neon lights outside? Of course! There's a reason small children are attracted to shiny objects. Shiny objects are just better. You can't argue with science.



Cleanliness?

You didn't pay for that (and more tips from an insider)

Finally, we have to discuss cleanliness. For the sake of full disclosure, love motels are cheap for a reason. Management has to do business in volume and cut some corners somewhere. Fortunately for them, the typical clients only need the room for less than an hour. The problem is that cutting corners means employees who clean things less thoroughly or frequently than you'd like to think (or hope). Here are a few tips from a former love-motel worker that we'd like to pass on to you.

If you're the type of person who brings a black light to a hotel, stop reading now. In fact, just about anything on the visible light spectrum isn't your friend once you enter the love motel. Many rooms have dimming light switches for a reason. Dim that bad boy way down. You're here to get a cheap night's sleep, not perform brain surgery, and what you can't see can't hurt you.

Couches and blankets are to be avoided, if possible. Sheets get washed more often than blankets, and couch upholstery rarely ever gets cleaned. If there are non-disposable cups, just stick to the bottled water that is often stocked in the mini-fridge. Don't use the washcloths in the bathroom either if you don't mind just bathing with your hands. And regarding the bathrobes: don't.

While it might seem counterintuitive to rent a hotel room in the morning, keep in mind that they get cleaned most thoroughly in the morning and often get used several times per day (they're often rented out for 1-2 hours for half price). If you want a room in peak condition, this is the best time to check in.

Finally, just think about it rationally. Does paying double or triple the price for a "real" hotel mean that no one has ever done the deed in your bed? Absolutely not. Just turn off the squeamish part of your brain, create some new stories and enjoy those savings.

Time to get snug

Here's our pick of love motels. Prices vary depending on the room or time of the week, and often aren't posted at all — so they might be entirely up to whether or not the proprietor likes the cut of your jib.

1

HOTEL RITZ

Seoul, Gwanak-gu, Gwanak-ro 17-gil

Ironical names are a trademark of the motels, but Fred Astaire probably wouldn't have stayed at this one, ritz or not. From the soft-core porn on the TVs to the sex-toy vending machine in each hall, there's no mistaking this 30,000-won-a-night venue for anything but a love motel. Still, the rooms are a great value and surprisingly clean.

The neighborhood surrounding Seoul National University's campus is centrally located on line 2, which services many tourist attractions. It's also chock full of pleasure fortresses like the Ritz. In fact, you can't toss a call-girl card over your shoulder without hitting one. While Hotel Ritz is just one example, the entire neighborhood is worth looking into for budget accommodations. They are some of the cheapest in Seoul.



2

HOTEL BUS

Seoul, Gwanak-gu, Sillim-dong 1433-95

If you're traveling or partying in a group of more than three, VIP party rooms are a sound investment. One like Hotel Bus can run from around 150,000 won on a week-night to 200,000 on the weekend. If you want a creative spot to pre-drink before going out to celebrate an occasion, you can even rent them for a few hours for half that price. The VIP rooms usually include several rooms and amenities like a pool table, full-size fridge, karaoke machine, a hot tub and multiple beds. Hotel Bus in particular adds a quirky twist to the standard party room by keeping the decor consistent with the hotel's theme of a London double-decker tour bus.



3

THEME HOTEL

Seoul, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Yeongdeungpo-dong 27-3

One great thing about these places is that some of the trendier ones have decorating patterns that follow various themes. While it's all pretty mass-produced (we're still talking about 40,000 won per night, remember), they can be entertaining nonetheless. It's fun to imagine that there's a dystopian factory somewhere in Korea that cranks out these matching wallpaper and furniture sets.

Theme Hotel is, well, all about the themes. Each room has its own. One room had a fake rotary phone and furniture reminiscent of 1940s detective noir. Somehow, it's a testament to the resourcefulness of the owners of these motels. Besides price, there are precious few ways to set one's smack shack apart from the competition, and places like Theme Hotel obviously have fun with what could otherwise be a very utilitarian business.



4

Q MOTEL

Seoul, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Yeongdeungpo-dong 22-4

Like Hotel Ritz, this is another one that doesn't really let you forget you're in a love motel. Decked in leopard-print sofas and with nude photographs on the walls, it may not be the best place for you if you're trying to mentally block out the dirty truth of your surroundings.

Still, the price is right — around 40,000 won depending on the room and night of the week. It's also close to Yeongdeungpo Station (a straight shot from the airport on line 1), and it's clean. Regarding the nude pictures on the walls — well, isn't that kind of the point anyway?



5

HOTEL SHEEL

Gangwon Province, Donghae-si, Cheongok-dong 935

In the less populated cities, you can often find much larger rooms in the same price range (50,000 won for this one). Rooms at Hotel Sheel are bigger and sturdier than comparable places in Seoul, simply because real estate is at less of a premium. Lights outside can be less garish, and there are often subtle touches of a more rural Korea about them. One quirky love motel experience was at a place that kept a chicken coop outside and served their eggs for breakfast.

In a few ways, the line blurs between real hotel and love motel. The unofficial definition is that optional hourly rates and condoms in the rooms indicate that a place is the latter. Also, this list wouldn't be complete without mentioning that Hotel Sheel is a little over an hour north of Haesindang Park, the famous park full of phallus statues.



GROOVE

Welcome to the National Museum of Korean Contemporary History



EXHIBITION

Exhibition Hall 1 **Prelude to the Republic of Korea (1876~1945)**
Exhibition Hall 2 **Foundation of the Republic of Korea (1945~1960)**
Exhibition Hall 3 **Development of the Republic of Korea (1961~1987)**
Exhibition Hall 4 **Modernization and Korea's Vision of Future (1988~)**
Other Facilities **Rooftop garden, Museum shop, Cafe are available**

Admission Free

Weekdays 09:00~18:00, Entry to museum until 17:00

Evening Opening April to October, every Thursday 9:00~21:00, Entry to museum until 20:00

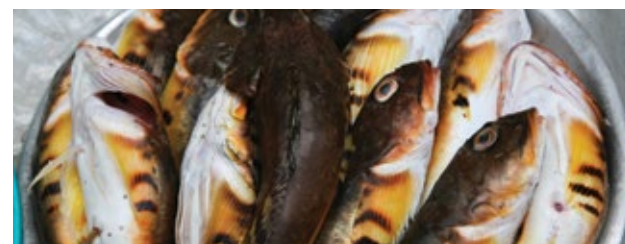
Closed Every Monday, January 1, When Monday is holiday the museum is closed on the next day

GUIDED TOURS

Korean 4 times/day 11:00 / 14:00, 15:00, 16:00 (20:00; Thursday, opening at night until 21:00)

Foreign Languages Foreign visitors of companies or institutions, group of foreigners with the reservation in advance of visiting (English, Japanese, Chinese are provided)





SOKCHO IN A DAY

Expand your palate with some east coast delicacies

Story by Kris Johnson

● Nestled along the shores of the East Sea a three-hour drive from Seoul, Sokcho is a popular coastal city in Gangwon Province. Koreans often visit this place to sample its unique cuisine. In a country where food-themed travel is commonplace, Sokcho seemed like the perfect place for us to try out some local dishes.

This day trip was specifically dedicated to food and featured a variety of specialties, including cold raw fish soup, squid sundae, fried chicken and potato dumpling soup. With all the food stops, our group only managed to squeeze in a small amount of sightseeing between meals.

Fresh seafood

The first stop on our food tour consisted of a refreshing cold soup-filled with raw seafood, rice and red pepper sauce (물회), as well as squid sundae (오징어 순대). This sundae puts a unique spin on traditional versions;

a roll of fresh and tender squid rings filled with ground beef, vegetables and glass noodles.

Market life and fried chicken

Our second stop was Sokcho's traditional seafood market (속초관광수산시장). There were dozens of fish, crab and exotic-looking sea creatures lining the stalls. In one row, we watched as an elderly woman hammered her product, guts and all, into large, round fish cakes.

Strangely, though, this market is more famous for its fried chicken, with an entire row of vendors dedicated to it. The dalkgangjung (닭강정), or fried chicken, is made to order. The secret to this treat is the sweet and nutty sauce — the chicken is really just a bonus. And while I prodded the chef to reveal the sauce's ingredients, she refused to divulge her method.

After getting our fill of dalkgangjung, we picked up some 호떡, a brown

sugar-infused pancake, and some fish-shaped bread filled with red bean paste (붕어빵) for dessert.

The potato specialty

We headed toward the beckoning water and gazed up at our final food destination — a gazebo perched above us and only accessible by a towering set of stairs (등대 전망대). The location provided a stunning view of the coastline and a refreshing breeze to challenge the blazing sun.

The climb burned just enough calories to make room for our final stop — a restaurant that cooks all six of its dishes with potatoes. Even their alcohol, a makgeolli variation, is derived from the root vegetable. We ate a potato version of the popular kalguksu (칼국수), a flavorful dumpling soup.

Mount Seorak

Stuffed, we headed to Mount Seorak. After a five-minute cable car ride and a short hike we stood atop its 1,708-meter summit. After posing on the rocky peak for some quick photos, we vowed to make it back in the fall to see the leaves of the beautiful maple trees give way to vibrant colors.

A stroll through the national park that surrounds the mountain brought our day to a close. Our Sokcho culinary experience had ended, and our stomachs were at peace as we enjoyed some meditation, prayer and incense beside an enormous Buddha statue (신흥사 청동좌불상).

Readers SPEAK

— **Marybeth Anderson, U.S.**

We packed a lot into our day; it was quite an adventure. The ride up to the top of Mount Seorak was admittedly scary, but the Swiss construction at the peak kept us safe and afforded phenomenal views near the summit of the mountain.

And although I'm mostly a pescatarian/vegetarian, the food on the trip was wonderful. The culinary highlight for me was the famous potato restaurant, but I also enjoyed the fresh fish and side dishes.

At the end of the night, I was incredibly grateful for this amazing opportunity to see Korea's east coast, meet new people and get out of my comfort zone a little.

— **Cynthia Lundbeck, U.S.**

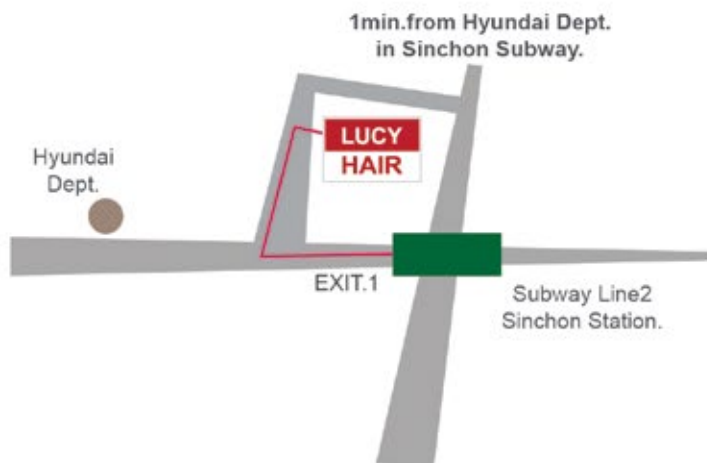
During my two years in South Korea, I never managed to find the right time to visit a mountain — that is, until this trip. Seoraksan National Park was the perfect ending to our Sokcho tour. Walking towards the peak, I felt the wind pick up, but we couldn't have asked for better weather. There were spectacular views of city and surrounding areas.

Everything was breathtaking. The world felt so different atop the mountain. **GROOVE**



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A DAEGU DAYDREAM

Dog days of summer bring
out the best in Daegu

Photos by **Serge Lebrun** Interview by **Dylan Goldby**



One of the best things about Daegu is how much stuff is jammed into the downtown area. It's also a great shopping city, so check out the various shopping theme streets and food streets — particularly the infamous Makjang St.

If you have a car or motorbike, take a loop south of Daegu by Gachang Dam or head up north to the mountains and temples by Gatbawi and Palgongsan. Suseong Pond is cute, but currently under construction. You're better off visiting Duryu Park for now.



Getting to Daegu

KTX: Bullet trains depart from Yongsan Station in Seoul throughout the day. The trip takes 150 minutes.

Mugunghwa: Not in a rush? Hang out in the Dining Car on the Mugunghwa — the slow train.

Bus: There are no bathrooms and you'll get stuck in traffic. Don't take the bus unless you're broke — or extremely cheap.



Above

Immediately following a big rainstorm in downtown Daegu, a usually boring white sky becomes much more interesting. Daegu Tower is seen in the distance.

Left

I hiked up to the peak of Gattbawi in the early morning in the hopes of getting a nice golden sunrise shot. The weather was overcast and terrible and the golden sunrise never came, but sometimes you just have to make the best of what you have in front of you.



Above

There's something quirky about a sunken duck boat on Suseong Pond. How did it get there, and what happened to it afterwards?

Groove Korea: What are your top three places in Daegu for photo ops and why?

Serge Lebrun: Downtown Daegu is always good; loads of people dressed to impress and lots of side alleys to explore.

Seomoon Market is one of the most popular traditional markets. Bring a fast lens.

The northern area near Mt. Palgong offers lots of opportunities for nature photographers; endless hiking trails and lots of Buddhist sites to visit.

What time of year is best to visit Daegu?

This is a hot city in the summer, but it's that same hot weather that gives this city its unique character: short tempers and short skirts.


Give us a little introduction to yourself as a person and a photographer.

I got my first camera by luck. A friend was upgrading and asked if I wanted to buy his old DSLR. A quick internet search showed good reviews, so I snapped it up with one lens. I spent the first year using only that 30mm prime lens and it was a good teacher. Then one day I bought a used lens on eBay that came with an old film SLR attached. I thought, why not give the film camera a try? Now I love using film just as much as digital cameras. It really teaches you to slow down and think your photos through before pushing the shutter.

Why Daegu?

Because it is where I met my wife. It's a comfortable city to live in, easy to get around, very affordable and a great place to use as a home base for day trips and overnight trips around Korea.

See page 33 for a map

EMBASSIES		EMERGENCY MEDICAL STATION	FAMILY & KIDS
<p>American Embassy [02] 397-4114 • 188 Sejong-daero, Jongno-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Canadian Embassy [02] 3783-6000 • 613-996-8885 [Emergency Operations Centre] Jeongdong-gil [Jeong-dong] 21, Jung-gu, Seoul</p> <p>British Embassy [02] 3210-5500 • Sejong-daero 19-gil 24, Jung-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Australian Embassy [02] 2003-0100 • 19th fl, Kyobo bldg., 1 Jongno 1-ga, Jongno-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Philippine Embassy [02] 796-7387~9 • 5-1 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Spanish Embassy [02] 794-3581 • 726-52 Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul</p> <p>French Embassy [02] 3149-4300 • 30 Hap-dong, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul</p>	<p>E Tour [02] 323-6850 • koreaetour.com</p> <p>Explore Korea • sonyaexplorekorea.com</p> <p>Grace Travel [02] 332-8946 • english.triptokorea.com</p> <p>Joy Leisure Service [02] 2307-8642 • joyleisures.com</p> <p>Panmunjom Travel Center [02] 771-5593 • koreadmztour.com</p> <p>Korean Safari [02] 587-9044 • koreansafari.com</p> <p>Fantastic Tour [02] 6925-7007 • nicetours.co.kr</p> <p>Seoul City Tour [02] 774-3345 • seoulcitytour.net</p> <p>Tour DMZ [02] 755-0073 • www.tourdmz.com</p> <p>Travel Pants Korea 010 9961 5765 • travelpantskorea.com</p>	<p>Gangnam St-Mary's Hospital 1588-1511 • 222, Banpo-daero, Seocho-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Yonsei Severance Hospital (Sinchon) [02] 2227-7777 • 50, Yonsei-ro, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Asan Medical Center 1688-7575 • 88, Olympic-ro 43-gil, Songpa-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Seoul National University Hospital 1339 • 28-2, Yeongeon-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Seoul Samsung Hospital 1599-3114 • 50, Irwon-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Keimyung University Dongsan Medical Center [053] 250-7167 [7177 / 7187] • 56, Dalseong-ro, Jung-gu, Daegu</p>	<p>INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS</p> <p>Chadwick International 032-250-5000 • 17-4 Songdo-dong, Yeonsu-gu, Incheon</p> <p>Yongsan ISS [02] 797-5104 • San 10-213 Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Seoul IS 031-750-1200 • 388-14 Bokjeong-dong, Sujeong-gu, Seongnam, Gyeonggi-do</p> <p>Seoul Foreign School [02] 330-3100 • 55-1 Yonhi-dong, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Branksome Hall Asia [02] 6456-8405 • Daejung-eup, Seogipo-si, Jeju island</p> <p>Daegu IS [053] 980-2100 • 1555 Bongmu-dong, Dong-gu, Daegu</p> <p>Sullivan School [02] 544-4445 • 543-4 Sinsa-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Dulwich College Seoul [02] 3015-8500 • 5-1 Banpo 2-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul The curriculum from Toddler to Year 10 (ages 18 months to 15 years) follows the best practice of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and English National Curriculum, enhanced for an international setting.</p>
TRAVEL AGENTS		AIRLINES	
<p>Fides Travel [02] 755 5470 • fidestravel.co.kr</p> <p>JNC Travel Service [02] 796 9633 • blog.naver.com/jnctravel</p> <p>Prime Travel [02] 6739 3570</p> <p>Shoe String Travel [02] 333 4151 • shoestring.kr/eng/abo01.htm</p> <p>Soho Travel [02] 322 1713 • sohoholiday.com</p> <p>Top Travel Service [02] 737 4289 • toptravel.co.kr/eng</p> <p>Unique Travel [02] 792 0606</p>	<p>HOTELS & RESORTS</p> <p>Sheraton Grande Walkerhill [02] 455-5000 • 177, Walkerhill-ro, Gwangjin-gu, Seoul</p> <p>NOVOTEL Ambassador Gangnam [02] 567-1101 • 603, Yeoksam 1-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Grand Hilton Seoul [02] 3216-5656 • 353, Yeonhui-ro, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Somersest Palace Seoul [02] 6730-8888 • 85, Susong-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Lotte Hotel Busan [051] 810-1000 • 772, Gaya-daero, Busanjin-gu, Busan</p> <p>Park Hyatt Busan [051] 990-1235 • Bansong 1-dong, Haeundae-gu, Busan</p> <p>Astoria Hotel [02] 2268-7111 • 13-2, Namhak-dong, Jung-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Park Hyatt Seoul [02] 2016-1234 • 606, Teheran-ro, Gangnam-gu, Seoul</p>	<p>Korean Air 1588-2001</p> <p>Asiana Airlines 1588-8000</p> <p>Lufthansa [02] 2019-0180</p> <p>Eastar Jet 1544-0080</p> <p>Air Busan 1666-3060</p> <p>Jeju Air 1599-1500</p> <p>T'way Air 1688-8686</p> <p>Jin Air 1600-6200</p> <p>Air Canada [02] 779-5654</p> <p>Air France [02] 3788-0400</p> <p>British Airways [02] 774-5511</p> <p>Cathay Pacific Airways [02] 311-2700</p> <p>Delta Airlines [02] 754-1921</p> <p>Emirates Airlines [02] 2022-8400</p>	 <p>AMUSEMENT PARKS</p> <p>Everland resort [031] 320-5000 • 310 Jeondae-ri, Pogok-eup, Cheoin-gu, Yongin-si, Gyeonggi-do</p> <p>Lotte World [02] 411-2000 • 240 Olympic-ro, Songpa-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Pororo Park [D-Cube city] 1661-6340 • 360-51 Sindorim-dong, Guro-gu, Seoul</p>
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<p>Adventure Korea 010-4242-5536 • adventurekorea.com</p> <p>Cosmojin Tour [02] 318-3405 • cosmojin.com</p> <p>Discover Korea [02] 398-6571 • www.discoverkoreatour.com/en</p>			

Pororo Park (Jamsil)

1661-6371 • 40-1 Jamsil-dong,
Songpa-gu, Seoul

Children's Grand Park (zoo)

(02) 450-9311 • 216 Neungdong-ro,
Gwangjin-gu, Seoul

Seoul Zoo

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dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul

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1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

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dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

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3-dong, Jung-gu, Seoul

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• reebokcrossfitsentinel.com

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(02) 2052-0096 / Ilsan (031) 932-
7010 / Busan (051) 758-5554
• www.asiaworldgym.com

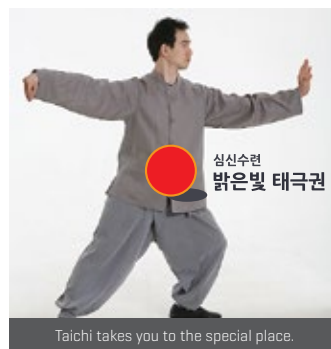
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010-6397-2662
• www.seoulmartialarts.com

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See page 33 for a map

MUSEUM & GALLERIES

National Museum of Korea

[02] 2077-9000 • 168-6

Yongsandong 6-ga, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

The NMK offers educational programs on Korean history and culture in English and Korean.

National Palace Museum of Korea

[02] 3701-7500 • 12 Hyoja-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul

This museum has a program called 'Experiencing Royal Culture' designed for English teachers to help learn about Joseon royal culture.

Seodaemun Museum of Natural History

[02] 330-8899 • 141-52 Yeonhui-dong, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul

Don't know where to take your kids on weekends? This museum exhibits a snapshot of the world and animals.

Daegu Art Museum

[053] 790-3000 • 374 Sundeok-dong, Suseong-gu, Daegu

Art space for local culture presenting Daegu's contemporary fine arts and internationally renowned artists.

National Museum of Contemporary Art, Korea

[02] 2188-6000 • 313

Gwangmyeong-ro, Gwacheon-si, Gyeonggi-do

Leeum Samsung Museum of Art

[02] 2014-6901 • 747-18 Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Closed on Mondays, New Year's day, Lunar New Year and Chuseok holidays.

Kumho Museum

[02] 720-5114 • 78 Sagan-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Closed on Mondays.

Gallery Hyundai

[02] 734-6111~3 • 22 Sagan-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul

It's the first specialized art gallery in Korea and accommodates contemporary arts. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Closed on Mondays, New Year's Day, Lunar new year and Chuseok holidays.

Plateau

[02] 1577-7595 • 50 Taepyeong-ro 2-ga, Jung-gu, Seoul
10 a.m.-6 p.m. Closed on Mondays.

Airang Gallery

[051] 731-0373 • 111 Centum Q, 1483 Woo-dong, Haeundae-gu, Busan

10 a.m. 7 p.m. Closed on Mondays.
• airanggallery.com

RESTAURANTS

AMERICAN & BRUNCH

Gobble n' Go

[02] 790-5390 • 118-18 Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

R1 Suji's

[02] 797-3698 • 34-16, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

The Flying Pan Blue

[02] 793-5285 • 123-7, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

R2 Two Hanz Burger

[02] 6401-7705 • 1 floor, 45-10, Yongsan-dong 2-ga, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

R3 TG Brunch

[02] 749-8005 • 305-5, Itaewon 2-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
This small and friendly neighborhood restaurant offers an affordable homestyle brunch all day.

Blue Crab

[02] 6081-9888 • B1, 112-2, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Jo's Basket Grill & Dining

[02] 744-0701 • 31-37 Dongsoong-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul

KOREAN & BBQ

R4 HBC Gogitjib (Itaewon)

[02] 796-5528 • 46-5, Yongsan-dong 2-ga, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Small Happiness in the Garden

[02] 975-3429 • 28-3 Jeodong 1-ga, Jung-gu, Seoul

Jang Sa Rang

[02] 546-9994 • 624-47 Sinsa-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul

The menu at this traditional Korean restaurant ranges from classic kimchi pancakes and stone pot rice to an array of meats and veggies.

Maple tree house

[02] 790-7977 • (Hamilton Hotel annex 2nd fl.) 116-1 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Ondal

[02] 450-4518 • 177 Walkerhill-ro, Gwangjin-gu, Seoul
Looking to impress a date or a business partner? Head to the premier traditional Korean restaurant in Seoul.

Hadongkwan

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Two Plus

[02] 515 5712 • B1 fl. 532-9 Sinsa-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul

Served here is a high-quality beef loin at a reasonable price.

Tosokchon [Samgyetang]

[02] 737 7444 • 85-1 Chebu-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul

A popular Korean-style chicken soup with Jinseng is popular at this place. Former presidents enjoyed this restaurant. A soup costs just 15,000 won.

THAI & VIETNAMESE

R5 Thai Garden

[02] 792-8836 • 737-24, Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Pho Hoa

[02] 792-8866 • 737-4, Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

R6 Le Saigon

[02] 792-0336 • 74-33, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Yum Thai

[02] 594-7988 • 5-4 Nonhyun-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul

ITALIAN & FRENCH

Trevia (Hannam-dong)

[02] 795-6004 • 738-25, Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

R7 Trevia (Itaewon)

[02] 794-6003 • 557 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

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R8 Le Cigale Montmartre

[02] 796-1244 • 123, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

R9 Pizzeria D'Buzza

[02] 794-9474 • 743-33, Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul,
This trendy joint has a full range of Italian fare. Make sure to make a reservation.

R10 CasaAntonio

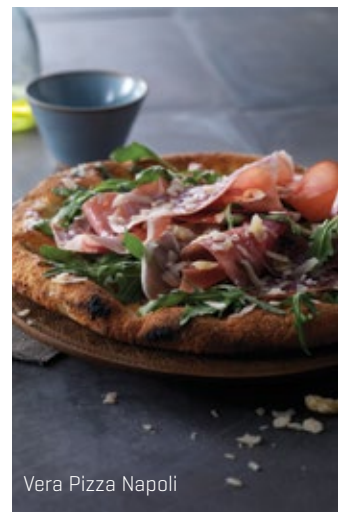
[02] 794-8803 • 124-6 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Pizza Hill

[02] 450-4699 • 177 Walkerhill-ro, Gwangjin-gu, Seoul
The first restaurant to serve pizza in Korea.

R17 Vera Pizza Napoli

[02] 796-7223 • 729-74 Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
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Vera Pizza Napoli

MEXICAN & TEX-MEX

Dos Tacos (Gangnam)

[02] 593-5904 • 104 Dession Luv, 1303-35 Seocho-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul
The best and largest taco franchise in Korea, try out their shrimp potato burrito.

R11 Urban Vatos

[02] 797-8226 • 181-8, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
A unique ambience makes this upscale restaurant an ideal place to fill your stomach with authentic favorites.

Grill5taco

[02] 515-5549 • 519-13 Sinsa-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul

On The Border

Shincheon [02] 324-0682
COEX [02] 565-0682
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Pyeongchon Lotte [031] 8086-9805
Times Square [02] 2672-0682
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R12 Songhwawon

[02] 794-8522 • 743-34, Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
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R13 Gida-sushi

[02] 749-3558 • 683-125, Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Ho Lee Chow

[02] 793-0802 • 119-25, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Jin Donburi

[02] 2235 1123 • 103-9 Jeodong 1-ga, Jung-gu, Seoul
The chef here trained in Japan and serves an authentic Japanese-style donburi (dongatsu over rice) at an affordable price. Gatsudong goes for 6,000 won.

Hong Jajang

[02] 792-8117 • 34-28 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
Fried rice, Jajang noodle and crispy fried pork are recommended. Try their cold Jambong, a seasonal favorite.

DONGATSU

Dr. Oh's King-size Dongatsu / O Baksane Dongatsu

[02] 3673 5730 • 131-32 Seongbuk-dong, Seongbuk-gu, Seoul
The place serves dongatsu the size of a car wheel. The restaurant dares you to finish it in one sitting.

Myungdong Dongatsu

[02] 776 5300 • 59-13 Myungdong 1-ga, Jung-gu, Seoul
This is the most popular and oldest Japanese-style dongatsu restaurant in Myungdong. Try the wasabi.

Namsan Dongatsu

[02] 777-7929 • 49-24 Namsandong 2-ga, Jung-gu, Seoul
Since 1992, this casual Korean-style dongatsu restaurant has been a favorites of Namsan hikers and taxi drivers.

INTERNATIONAL

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[02] 744 6333 • 1-79 Dongsung-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul

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So True

[02] 549 7288 • Jinseong Building, 58-6 Samseong-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul. blog.naver.com/julieintoday

Sanchon

[02] 735 0312 • 14 Gwanghun-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul
www.sanchon.com

Veggie Holic

070 4114 0458 • 204-59 Donggyo-dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul.
www.veggieholic.co.kr

March Rabbit

[02] 3444-4514 • 560 Sinsa-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul



March Rabbit

DESSERT

R14 Tartine

[02] 3785-3400 • 119-15, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
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R15 Coffee Chu

[02] 790-6821 • 682-10, Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

R16 Takeout Drawing

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G'day [American & Brunch]

[053] 746-1217 • 980-9
 Suseongdong 4-ga, Suseong-gu, Daegu
 This Aussie brunch cafe serves the best brunch in Daegu at the best price.
 • www.facebook.com/CafeGday

The Paris [Italian & French]

[053] 763-8998 • 207-10 Doosan-dong, Suseong-gu, Daegu
 This place offers fine dining in one of the few authentic French restaurants in town.

Dos Tacos [Mexican & TEX-MEX]

[053] 255-4885 • 34-4 Dongsung-ro 2-ga, Jung-gu, Daegu

PAN Asia [International]

[053] 287-7940 • 2 fl., 21-9 Samdeok-dong, Jung-gu, Daegu

South st. [American]

[053] 471-7867 • 664-10 Bongdeok 3-dong, Nam-gu, Daegu

Bagel Doctor [Café]

[053] 421-6636 • Samdeokdong 2-ga, Jung-gu, Daegu

Miyako [Japanese]

[053] 761-5555 • 402-5 Sang-dong, Suseong-gu, Daegu

Beyond Factory [Italian/café]

[053] 255-7614 • 40-63 Daebong-dong, Jung-gu, Daegu

Italy & Italy [Italian / French]

[053] 423-5122 • 22-2, Samdeok-dong 1-ga, Jung-gu, Daegu

La Luce [European]

[053] 255-7614 • 40-63 Daebong-dong, Jung-gu, Daegu

Ariana Boccaccio Hotel Brau [Buffet]

[051] 767-7913 • 200-1, Dusan-dong, Suseong-gu, Daegu

Thursday Party [Bar]

21-23 Samdukdong 1-ga, Jung-gu, Daegu

BUSAN

Rock N Roll [Bar]

• 2 fl, 56-5, Daeyeon 3-dong, Nam-gu, Busan

Wolfhound [Irish Pub]

[051] 746-7913 • 2 fl, 1359, U 1-dong, Haeundae-gu, Busan

Fuzzy Navel [Mexican Pub]

[051] 754-6349 • 178-13, Millak-dong, Suyeong-gu, Busan

Farmer's Hamburger [American]

[051] 244-5706 • 35-1 Daechungdong 2-ga, Jung-gu, Busan

The Pho [Vietnamese]

[051] 256-8055 • Saeabusan town, Sinchangdong 1-ga, Jung-gu, Busan

The Grill On The Beach [Pub]

[051] 731-9799 • B1 fl. Sea star bldg., 1417-2 Jung 1-dong, Haeundae-gu, Busan
 This submarine-themed pub carries international beer and a wide selection of wine.

Paniere[Café]

[051] 817-8212 • 225-1 Bujeon-dong, Jin-gu, Busan
 The European-style brunch restaurant/café serves fresh fruit juice and sandwiches.

DRINKS

BEER

D1 Craftworks taphouse

010-7666-1588 • 238, Naksapyeong-daero, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
 The first expat-owned microbrewery in Korea still offers some of the best brews around. Try out their seasonal tastes in a warm and inviting ambience.

D2 Reilly's taphouse

[02] 792-6590 • 3 floor, 123-32, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
 Reilly's Taphouse boasts some 20 draft beers and is committed to carrying the best craft brews from Korea and around the world.



Reilly's taphouse

D3 3 Alley pub

[02] 749-3336 • 116-15, Itwaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Big Rock

[02] 539-6650 • B1 818-8, Yeoksam 1-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul
 This place imports premium beer from Alberta. Its comfortable atmosphere and huge space is perfect for just about every occasion.

D4 Wolfhound [Itaewon]

[02] 749-7971 • Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, Korea

Wolfhound [Haeundae, Busan]

[051] 746-7913 • 1359 Woo 1-dong, Haeundae-gu, Busan

COCKTAIL & WINE

Between

[02] 795-6164 • 124-7, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

D5 Noxa

[02] 790-1334 • 671, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
 This cozy neighborhood hangout in Itaewon specializes in cocktails and tapas. Check out DOJO, a downstairs bar with huge variety of alcohol on offer.



Noxa

B1

[02] 749-6164 • 119-7, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Prost

[02] 796-6854 • 116-1, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

5th Lounge

[053] 764-3579 • 207-10 Doosan-dong, Suseong-gu, Daegu
 This fabulous lounge does just about everything right. If you're in search for space for private parties, this is the place.

Once in a blue moon

[02] 549.5490 • 85-1 Chungdam-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul
 A live jazz club Seoul that hosts internationally renowned musicians from Korea and around the world.

SOJU/MAKEOLI

Mowmow

070-4078-8862 • 118-71, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

D6 Jeon [전 만땅]

070-8749-5004 • 118-18, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

SAKE

D7 Yuda

[02] 388-5081 • 683-126, Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

D8 Muntaro

[02] 796-7232 • 683-124, Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

NIGHTCLUBS

Octagon

• 175-2 Nonhyeon-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul

Vera

• 356-1 Seogyo-dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul

Cocoon

• 364-26 Seogyo-dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul

NB

• 362-4 Seogyo-dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul

Eden

• Ritz Calton 602 Yeoksam-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul

Elune

• 1408-5 Jung 1-dong, Haeundae-gu, Busan

Mass

• 1306-8 Seocho 4-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul

MASSAGE, SPA & BEAUTY

A1 Healing hands

070-7504-8090 • 3 floor 124-7, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
This ultra-comfortable spa is a Groove favorite. Located on the main drag of Itaewon, an affordable massage here will make your day.



Healing hands

Tiffany's nail

[02] 794-4179 • 123-26, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
Kick back with a cup of coffee or tea and relax while getting a manicure. Choose from over 200 colors.

Hair & Joy

[02] 363-4253 • 3 floor, Hongnam Building, 168-3, Donggyo-dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul

Lucy Hair

[02] 325-2225 • 2 floor, 30-10, Chandcheon-dong, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul
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**SEUNG-JONG LEE, D.D.S., MS**

Professor
Dept. of Conservative Dentistry
Yonsei University School of Dentistry
Diplomate, American Board of Endodontics

NEW TECHNIQUE IMPROVES TOOTH TRANSPLANTATION SURGERY

A tooth lost at an early age can create various problems: inclination of the adjacent tooth, elongation of an opposing tooth, dystrophic change of the alveolar bone, and the list of negative side effects goes on and on.

The main cause of early tooth loss is due to a mal-erupted wisdom tooth, which then leads to difficulty cleaning.

This can result in periodontal disease and decay of the tooth next to the wisdom tooth. However, in most cases the wisdom tooth itself remains healthy because it is impacted in the bone. Moving the healthy wisdom tooth to the missing area is called tooth transplantation.

It is said that tooth transplantations have been around since ancient Egyptian times. In those days, however, the success rates were relatively low. The main obstacle Egyptian surgeons faced was time. Preserving the viability of the donor root cell is of the utmost importance; most of the root cells are reported dead after 30 minutes of air exposure. Therefore reducing surgery time

is the most effective way of ensuring a successful transplantation.

Yonsei dentistry has developed a special technique called, "computer-aided rapid prototyping," which reproduces a replica tooth that is the exact shape and size of the donor tooth. The surgeon then uses this replica for recipient bone contouring.

This procedure is used not only for the missing molars, but also for impacted canine teeth that can't be replaced by orthodontic treatment.

Using this technique, surgery times can be reduced to 10 minutes, which is an appropriate time frame for root cell preservation. Success rates using computer

aided rapid prototyping are up to 90 percent. In most instances, the patients can chew by the three-month mark.

This procedure is used not only for the missing molars, but also for impacted canine teeth that can't be replaced by orthodontic treatment.

Although there are very few contraindications for this procedure, previous publications reported that patients under 40 years of age showed better results.

For further dentistry information or reservations, please call Ms. Aeri Jo, the English coordinator at Yonsei University Dental Hospital.

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Horoscopes



Aries / March 20 - April 20

You feel like screaming at work this month because it seems that everything you do is causing problems. Don't worry; it will be over soon. Just continue to fix any mistakes that arise. As for your family life, it's going well. Loved ones are there for you to lift your spirits after a long month.



Libra / September 24 - October 23

Work can wear you out this month if you let it — don't. When things get too hectic, take a step back and collect your thoughts. Take a walk if that will help. To do your best — you have to stay focused. A loved one turns to you for help later in the month. Do everything that you can.



Taurus / April 21 - May 21

The month seems to fly by. You finish a project that you've been working on for a long time. It's time to celebrate. Your personal life gives you ample time to relax. Close friends are busy, so you've got a lot of time to yourself. Enjoy it while you can, because your phone will be ringing off the hook soon.



Scorpio / October 24 - November 22

"When will it end?" You ask yourself this question a lot this month as your manager keeps pushing you harder every day. Don't get frazzled. An old friend calls you up out of the blue and wants to get together. This is the perfect opportunity for you to get your mind off of work.



Gemini / May 22 - June 21

Hold your emotions in check at work this month. It feels like a close friend and coworker is stabbing you in the back. Before you react, make sure you get all of the facts. A close friend shows up on your doorstep with a problem. Open up your home — and your heart — to him or her.



Sagittarius / November 23 - December 21

Everything is coming up roses for you this month. You get a surprise bonus at work for all you've been doing. As for family relations, they're very strong. Loved ones thank you for the support you've been giving lately. A close friend introduces you to someone interesting.



Cancer / June 22 - July 22

Remain calm as things get crazy this month. You'll be working a lot of overtime to finish up a major project and your loved ones will be demanding your input in planning a family event. You can't ignore your coworkers or your family, so just try to help everyone out as much as you can.



Capricorn / December 22 - January 19

You finally complete a rigorous task at work. Now is your time to relax. Take a day off and get an early start on a long weekend. You deserve it. As for your friends, they're ready to celebrate with you. Plan a getaway for all of you.



Leo / July 23 - August 23

The lion wants to roar this month as everything goes well at work and at play. Superiors reward you for all of your hard work and friends take you out to thank you for always being there for them. That special someone finally calls to ask you out. Taurus and Cancer play important roles.



Aquarius / January 20 - February 18

Don't get discouraged at work. While it seems like the month will never end, it'll be over before you know it. A coworker with whom you don't often talk will be there to help you with a problem. That someone special throws you a curveball at the end of the month. Don't get upset.



Virgo / August 24 - September 23

While work is tedious this month, it also is rewarding. Even the most boring tasks can let your talents shine. A close friend relies on you to be there for him or her during an important event. Even though you feel like a third wheel, he or she needs you. You can actually have a good time.



Pisces / February 19 - March 19

You feel like Superman this month as you keep going without a break. Superiors notice your efforts at work and reward you. Loved ones are amazed at your energy. Try to get as much done as you can, because you'll need your rest by the end of the month.



KUSAMA YAYOI, A Dream I Dreamed

2013. 7. 16. - 2013. 11. 3.

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E-2

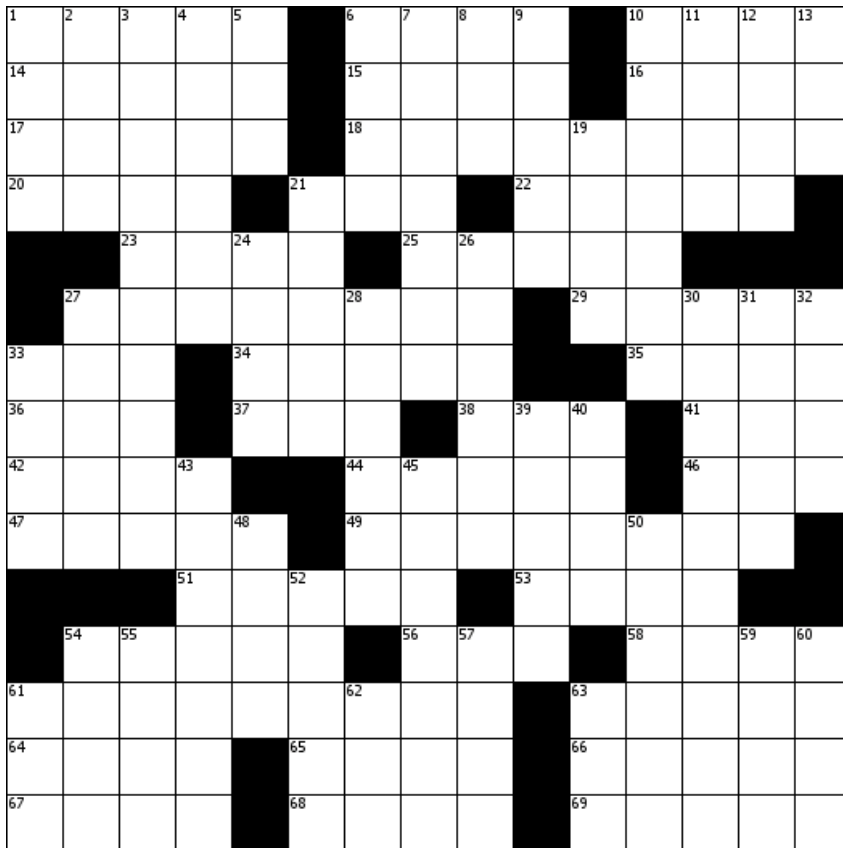
Select varieties of ajumma:



JON LINKE '13

Games

Crosswords - Sudoku



Across

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Biblical queen's land | 29. Paddock papas | 53. Choker site |
| 6. Place in a hold | 33. Some rail lines | 54. Gardener's tool |
| 10. Applications | 34. 6th day of Christmas gift | 56. Pins are made here |
| 14. Kind of waste | 35. Jay often seen at night | 58. Barkeeps records |
| 15. As good as it gets | 36. Longbow wood | 61. Cruise ship accomodation |
| 16. Shipbuilder's stock | 37. Title for Eva Perón | 63. Dark brown fur |
| 17. Plentiful | 38. Braying beast | 64. Fishing rod |
| 18. Illegal nightclub | 41. --- culpa | 65. Rani's attire |
| 20. Titanic downfall | 42. Mesozoic and Paleozoic | 66. Fjord |
| 21. Cleopatra's undoing | 44. Type of lily | 67. Earth rulers in a 1968 film |
| 22. Dentist's directive | 46. Band aid, briefly | 68. Just gets by |
| 23. Sushi dishes | 47. Eyelid irritants | 69. Bed starter |
| 25. Organizational aids | 49. Distasteful | |
| 27. Gave one's consent | 51. On the chilly side | |

Down

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Take a --- at (try) | 26. High standards | 55. Opposite of flushed |
| 2. Plate place | 27. On your toes | 57. English author Kingsley |
| 3. Turnpike | 28. Item at the Mad Hatter's party | 59. Wasn't colorfast |
| 4. Places for stagnant water | 30. Extraordinary | 60. Hardens |
| 5. Serve well done | 31. "---- of the State" (1998) | 61. Place for a soak |
| 6. Impudent reply | 32. You can get this in bars | 62. Durable hardwood |
| 7. Overthrows | 33. They are behind glasses | 63. Boom preceder |
| 8. Sight from the cuckoo's nest? | 39. One person's opinion | |
| 9. Erodes | 40. Bullpen success | |
| 10. Kitchen tool | 43. Law-making bodies | |
| 11. Proverbial septet | 45. "Can't Cry ---" (Sheryl Crow) | |
| 12. Natural effortlessness | 48. A or B, on a record | |
| 13. Blue shade | 50. Fuel rating | |
| 19. Hobby shop inventory | 52. In and of itself | |
| 21. Lou Grant portrayer | 54. Intersection sign | |
| 24. Stocking stuffers? | | |

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		4		9	3	1		
	5			7				
				5				9

PROMOTIONS

Edited by Sean Choi - sean@groovekorea.com

March Rabbit

New vegan salad menu

The salad restaurant March Rabbit on Garosugil recently launched a new vegan salad menu. The Southern California salad with green hummus, lentil salsa and tofu steak comes with the restaurant's special sweet and sour dressing. It is served for 12,500 won.

For reservations and inquiries, call (02) 3444-4514.



Park Hyatt Busan

Private Boutique Wedding

Park Hyatt Busan offers Hyatt Gold Passport® bonus points redeemable for a maximum of five free nights at any Hyatt® brand hotels around the world to patrons making a wedding booking by Dec. 31, 2014. The hotel also offers a variety of special benefits through partnerships with luxury brands, such as a complimentary wedding car service and the Chantecaille Honeymoon Pouch containing Nano Gold Cream, Bio Lifting Cream, Healing Emulsion, Bio Lifting Serum and Brilliant Gloss.

The Park Hyatt Busan wedding planning team can be reached at (051) 990-1360.

Sheraton Grande Walkerhill

Walkerhill du Cinema

Sheraton Grande Walkerhill runs its movie night, Walkerhill du Cinema, at Walkerhill Theatre on every Friday and Saturday evening from July 26 till Aug. 17. Friday nights will feature spy movies, including "Austin Powers" and "Mr. & Mrs. Smith." Friday's screening time is between 10 p.m. and midnight. A selection of adventurous animation films is highly recommended for the family guests every Saturday night from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. Walkerhill du Cinema is available for 40,000 won per person, including a gourmet snack of grilled sausage, French fries and a choice of drink (beer, soft drink or juice).

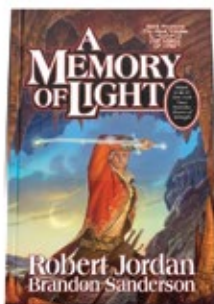
For reservations and inquiries, call (02) 455-5000.



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Supersonic festival

Discount tickets available in July

Soul King John Legend is set to perform at SuperSonic 2013, along with the Pet Shop Boys, Earth Wind & Fire, Two Door Cinema Club and many more international and Korean acts. It will be held at Olympic Park on Aug. 14-15. The headliner for Aug. 15 is Cho Yong Pil, a legendary Korean artist who is celebrating 45 years at the top of the Korean music industry. It will be his first music festival ever.

For more information, go to www.supersonickorea.com.



Club Med

Autumn Holiday Discount Promotion

The international all inclusive resort Club Med presents the Club Med Autumn Holiday Discount Promotion to people who plan a vacation after the hot summer.

The promotion offers up to a 35 percent discount starting from 1.29 million won for adults to guests who book for a stay from September to October. The resorts are Guilin, Bali, Bintan Island, Phuket, Cherating Beach, Kabira beach and Maldives.

For more information, please visit www.clubmed.co.kr or call (02) 3452-0123.

Gangnam Tourist Info Center

2013 Seoul Hot Summer Sale

Pick up a coupon book and gift pouch for the 2013 Seoul Hot Summer Sale (Aug. 1 to 31) at Gangnam Tourist Information Center (GTIS). Available while supplies last. The new GTIS building has been built to respond to the surge of international interest and tourism to Gangnam. The Gangnam Tourist Information Center offers tourist information and interpretation services, as well as consultations on medical tourism, a currency exchange booth and an internet lounge. English, Chinese and Japanese interpretation and related services are available. The latest K-Wave trends are on exhibit.

For more information, call (02) 3445-0111



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PROMOTIONS

Edited by Sean Choi - sean@groovekorea.com

JW Marriott Seoul

Chicken & beer / picnic / spa

JW Marriott Seoul offers packages for families, couples and friends. The Beer Party package features cool beer and fried chicken delivered as part of room service. The Evening Picnic package offers the perfect chance to cool off at a nearby riverside park with a JW Marriott Chiller Pack. The Cool Summer package will help relieve stress with a facial cooling massage treatment. All packages include one night's accommodation in a Superior Room. [For inquiries, call \(02\) 2016-1205 or \(02\) 2016-1206.](#)



Park Hyatt Seoul

Summer at the Park suite room package

The Summer at the Park suite room package includes a one-night stay in a luxurious Park Suite, a bottle of premium champagne chilled in an ice in the room, internet access in hotel outlets and guestrooms, as well as access to the swimming pool, fitness center and sauna. For package guests, a Cornerstone three-course dinner for two with a bottle of premium wine is specially offered at 100,000 won, and Cornerstone breakfast at 30,000 won. [For reservations and inquiries, call \(02\) 2016-1234.](#)

Lotte Hotel Busan

Chinese Cuisine at Dorim

Lotte Hotel Busan presents a new course set menu at its Chinese restaurant Dorim. The menu is made with local ingredients, and recipes are comprised of birds' nest stew, lobster, abalone, sea cucumber stuffed with beef and steamed fish. It is priced at 134,000 won. For those on a diet, the hotel's restaurant serves a course including pine tree mushrooms, asparagus, tofu salad, mushroom soup, steamed fish and chicken stew — all under 859 Kcal per meal — at 70,000 won. The diet menu is served only during lunch. [For reservations and inquiries, call \(051\) 810-6340.](#)



Grand Hilton Seoul

Oktoberfest

Grand Hilton Seoul is getting ready for Oktoberfest, its annual celebration of traditional German culture. On Sept. 7, the Grand Hilton's Convention Center will be converted into a joyful festival brimming with traditional German food, beers such as Paulaner Hefe-Weissbier and Oktoberfest lagers such as Berentzen and Beck's. Cass, Jagermeister and tea will also be served. The tickets are priced 140,000 won. [For inquiries and reservations, call \(02\) 2287-7456.](#)

Conrad Seoul

37 Grill & Bar named top wine restaurant

Conrad Seoul's flagship restaurant, 37 Grill & Bar, was selected as one of the best wine restaurants in the world in the August issue of Wine Spectator, an influential wine magazine. It was the only hotel in Seoul to make the list. 37 Grill & Bar was given the Award of Excellence. It is situated on the 37th floor of Conrad Seoul and has a sensational view of the Han River and Yeido Island.

[For more information and reservations, call \(02\) 6137-7000.](#)



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Photo Challenge

This month's challenge: Sports



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STARBUCKS IS DRESSED TO DANCE

On July 17, Starbucks released new tumblers that have been inspired by traditional Korean Bongsan Masked Dance. .

The tumblers followed on the Mugunghwa tumbler series and were designed by Starbucks Korea to present "the beauty of Korean tradition."

"Mugunghwa tumblers were sold out within five hours of their release. And bags, cards, mugs and tumblers incorporating traditional design elements are receiving fervent response from our customers," said Park Jung-rye, design director at Starbucks. "We will present more designs blending Starbucks brand identity and the traditional images of Korea to provide interesting and unique services to foreign customers."

The unique and vibrant movements of dance as represented in the Lion Masked Dance are demonstrated by Obang Colors (black, white, blue, red and yellow). The design is highlighted by the harmony of the traditional visuals, such as the traditional kites, drums and pine trees, and the traditional clothes for the dance.

The typography used for "Daehanminguk" at the bottom of the tumblers was designed by the renowned calligrapher Kang Byung-in.

Starbucks will continue to release new tumblers commemorating national holidays, such as Independence Day, and donate revenues to support the restoration and development of Korean traditions.

'We will present more designs blending Starbucks brand identity and the traditional images of Korea to provide interesting and unique services to foreign customers.'

— Park Jung-rye,
design director at Starbucks



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공연, 전시, 영상, 체험, 심포지엄 등 8개 분야 40여개 프로그램

주요 프로그램

한국문화관, 한국문화재 특별전, 한·터 예술 합동교류전, 한국대표작가사진전,
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